

FASHION'S REALM.

THE NEWEST FANCIES IN WOMAN'S WEAR.

Valenciennes, the fashionable fabric of the moment—Startling Novelties in Cycling Dress—A Black Chip Hat.

FOR a little while you can use valenciennes, says a New York fashion letter to the Chicago Record. It is the fashionable lace at the moment, but it is so cheap that nothing is more certain than that it won't be the fashion very long. While the fancy lasts, however, it is lavished upon everything unsparingly. The summer blouse is all valenciennes. I was looking yesterday at a white tulle waist that belongs to the trousseau of a June bride. The back of it was plain, but the front was laid in tiny tucks, between which were set rows of narrow insertion, edged with valenciennes that stood out in frills. The big sleeves were tucked and lace garnished in the same fashion, and there was a white silk collar all a-dutter with lace ruffings.

A white lawn dress is another summery example. It has a skirt eight yards round, with three lawn ruffles at the bottom. The top ruffle is headed with valenciennes and all three are footed with it. The waist is trimmed in dainty fashion. Two rows of valenciennes are run together, to make a tiny ruche, and five rows of ruching are thrown over the blouse, brettelette fashion. Little rosettes of lace are perched upon the shoulders like butterflies.

For summer evening wear novelties are showing their heads on every hand. A pretty cream-colored silk, figured with roses, is cut with a skirt almost ten yards round. The low bodice is of white tulle, with a great bow of black velvet on the left shoulder. There is a very narrow black velvet belt and the sleeves are tulle cascades. Garlands of roses catch up the draperies.

ery store, is of fine black chip, with a full Tam o' Shanter crown of "violet-ta" velvet; a huge rosette of the same is placed on the right side quite at



BLACK CHIP HAT.

the back; on the left side are four black feathers, one stands upright, two fall slightly over the brim in front, and one curls over the side.

SUMMER BONNETS.

Leghorn hats will be worn at the summer resorts, trimmed with black ostrich feathers—half long—flat on either side, and large bunches of pink roses.

For concert wear a large black poppy forms the center of a toque, with a circle of rainstones near the top; two pink satin ribbon rosettes are placed at the sides of the front, and at the back a wide bow of ribbon has a center of shaded pink roses.

A MOMENTARY FAD.

Cordings and pipings are a momentary fad and are, of course, seen upon almost everything. They are neither artistic nor becoming, as a rule, giving the wearer the effect of being

FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

DRY BORDEAUX POWDER.

For some years a dry powder similar to bordeaux mixture, that is, consisting of copper sulphate and lime, has been on the market under the name of David's powder. In 1887 it was unhesitatingly recommended by the department of agriculture for use on potatoes. It has, however, been entirely superseded by bordeaux mixture, since the latter is more economical, adheres better to the foliage, and according to the experience of most growers is easier to use.—New England Homestead.

BEEF RAISING.

Successful beef breeding must be along the lines of the improved breeds, and combined with the science of feeding in order to develop early maturity with superior quality. These are the advantages of the improved breeds for with all classes of stock fed for meat the cost is greatly increased each succeeding year that they are kept and fed.

The rival beef breeds are the Short-horns, Herefords, Galloway, and Angus, and their crosses, the first of these, as the Illinois Station has recently shown, being far away the most popular. But whatever the breed selected, the feed is equally important. Neither will do itself. It is only by their union that beef raising can be made profitable. The breed must be one that will respond by good growth to proper care and feed. The result will be early maturity and good quality, for which the best prices will be realized. This is the kind of beef cattle that really pays.—New York World.

GRAFTING WAX AND GRAFTING.

Wax for covering the union of a graft to the stock is made of beeswax, resin, and tallow, in equal parts, melted together with as much linseed oil (raw) as will make the mixture plastic. The oil may be added to the melted ingredients and a sample tested by cooling, until the mixture is right. It is then made into rolls in warm water, squeezed and worked until the whole is thoroughly incorporated and made tough. It should become soft enough for use by the warmth of the hand. It will harden on the tree by oxidation of the oil. Experts usually make their appearance on the farms in the spring to do this work, for the common sum of \$1 per 100, they providing their own cions. This, however, is not an advisable plan; it is better to buy the cions of a known nurseryman who may be depended upon for the varieties chosen or ordered. The grafts if of the proper age will bear in three or four years, or in two if they have fruit buds on them.—New York Times.

MULBERRIES FOR MARKET.

The Downing mulberry is an excellent fruit with a sprightly flavor, and in young thrifty trees it grows to a good size for a mulberry, or about an inch and a half long by about one-half inch in diameter. It has been grown in private gardens for the past thirty years or more, but we have never seen any of this fruit in market. We presume one reason why mulberries are not in demand is that we have so many better kind of berries coming in at the same season, and at much cheaper rates than it would be possible to produce mulberries. Mulberries ripen very unevenly, or a few at a time, continuing for a month or more, and it would be rather a tedious operation to gather the crop for market unless the trees were trained low enough to admit of gathering the berries while standing on the ground. A mulberry tree or two in a garden may add something in the way of fruit for the family, but we doubt if there ever will be a demand for these berries in our city markets.—New York Sun.

MUSHROOMS AND MANURE HEAPS.

As grown in old grass pastures, mushrooms are agreeable and excellent eating, especially if cooked properly and cooked fresh. Even as produced artificially for the market, they are often quite wholesome, if washed clean and cooked early. But, as is well known, says the Lancet (London), mushrooms belong to an order of vegetables of a somewhat low organization, and they grow and reproduce themselves with remarkable rapidity when sown in decomposing vegetable matter. Many growers take advantage of this fact to cultivate mushrooms on manure heaps—heaps, that is to say, not of ordinary farmyard manure, but of the vile and rotting filth of every description which is gathered together in large towns and delivered to suburban and country

mushroom growers by horse wagon or train. Now, plants take up into themselves the very stuff, modified, on which they grow. Mushrooms grown of matter of this sort select from it those parts which they are able to assimilate. But the arrangement of the "cap" of the mushroom enables it also to absorb the vapor of the manure, which is a dangerous poison to man and other animals. Thus the scores or hundreds of radiating plates of which they principally consist are in practice little better than traps for the catching and retaining of more deadly poisons still.—Scientific American.

A STRAW STABLE.

A valued correspondent says that he adopted a suggestion he saw in these columns several years ago, and made a stable of baled straw that has proven the most satisfactory of any structure on his place. He made a stone foundation of stones picked up on the farm, raising it just a little above the ground; on that he put the first course of bales, bedding them in clay mortar as one would bricks. Between the first and second row of bales he put two six-inch boards, one flush with the inner and the other with the outer edge, using clay mortar between. After he had the inner boards as high as he desired to nail anything on the inside, he used boards on the outside only, putting one between each row of bales, making the one on top answer as a plate, to which rafters and roof were attached in the usual way. In this case the whole structure was aided with perpendicular boards, nailed to those between the bales, inclosing it all; but this is not necessary, since a few board as used will give the structure all the solidity required, and the straw will last for many years, even if not protected. The roof can be of boards, shingles, or thatched, the latter being the warmest. This kind of building is very cheap, and is warmer than any other kind of a building can possibly be made. In laying the bales joints should be broken, as in laying brick, and the corners bound in the same way. Where straw is practically worthless and a press is at hand, there is no other building material so cheap as baled straw, and nothing regardless of cost, that will so tangle up and discourage the cold of a Northwestern winter.—Farm, Stock and Home.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Nothing is gained on the farm by rushing or fretting, but much is lost when the wear and tear on the system is considered.

The man who knows and appreciates just how and when to use the roller and harrow for the best good of his farm crops is well abreast of the best thought of the age in the matters of soil tillage.

Do not plow ground now if it is not dry. It will pay to wait a few days longer and have the soil fine and in good condition than to plow it too soon only to be compelled to do extra work trying to break the lumps.

Cover the henhouse floor with fine straw or chaff and make the hens scratch in it for their grain. The exercise will prevent an over abundance of fat, stimulate egg laying, prevent egg eating and feather pulling.

Do not attempt to fatten young pigs but to develop bone and muscle in them and make them grow. Pigs that are made to grow rapidly when young will make good hogs to fatten. Ground wheat has a large per cent of protein for growth. So has wheat bran.

Fill in the vacancies in the rows of last year's strawberry plants with young plants, so as to have them send out runners and fill up the gaps. The same applies to other varieties of small fruits. The rows should be regular and well filled in order to save space and utilize labor.

The weeds and grass are now in full sway on land that has not been plowed or properly attended to. A few days work on such fields at the proper time will save several weeks' labor later. It will pay to cease all other work in order to destroy weeds when they are young.

Farmers should never dispose of pure-bred stock to the butcher, as long as there are other markets for them, and should never sell such stock at butcher's prices. A pure-bred animal will always bring a fair price. As a rule, thorough-bred stock is remarkably cheap considering the advantages gained by the use of such.

Thought It Went Further.

He—Well, what do you think of the ocean? She—It is not nearly as large as I thought it would be. Why it merely extends to the horizon.—Truth.

A CHRISTMAS DINNER.

A SOLDIER'S TALE.

An Escapade Which Roused and Alarmed a Union Camp.

After Sheridan's army moved back to Winchester, in the fall of 1864, the cavalry was picketing out some five miles, and had not as yet made winter quarters, but were getting what comfort they could out of dog-tents and rail fires.

During the early part of the fall our pickets were well out to Middletown. On this line we became very well acquainted with the people living in the vicinity. Although the men were all in the Confederate army, the Vermonters became very good friends with the female portions of the community.

Christmas night, 1864, three of the Vermont cavalry officers were invited to eat a Christmas supper at one of the houses near where our reserve picket-post stood. I have forgotten the name of the people, but the incident seems fresh in my memory, and was one of the few real enjoyments of a soldier's life.

The house to which the officers were invited was some four miles outside of our picket-line. It was a lonely trip, when one might expect to find father or brother at home from the Confederate army.

Nevertheless, those officers were bound to have their Christmas supper, regardless of what might be outside the picket-lines. That did not worry us as much as how we were to pass our picket-lines out and in again.

Finally, we made up the following yarn to relate at the picket-line: We represented ourselves as Custer's scouts, and we were going out to see if we could find where Early was; that we might be gone until 12 o'clock; to be sure and tell the relief guards that we were out and would come in about 12, so they need not call the Officer of the Guard when we came in.

Our story passed current with the pickets, and we were soon trotting gaily to our supper. When we reached the house we found a private of some regiment who had stolen outside without story or permit. The night was quite dark, and after making our horses as secure and comfortable as possible, we were royally welcomed by the lady of the house and her daughter. We could not well stand picket and enjoy a meal at the same time, so we concluded to get the meal first.

The lady assured us if her son, who was in the Virginia cavalry, should come home, even if accompanied by some comrades, she could guarantee us from capture as her guests.

We were soon supper, which for an impoverished country swept by both armies alternately, was elaborate. Our ever-ready revolvers were close at hand. We had been enjoying the feast for a few minutes when a rap at the door was heard. We had trusted somewhat to the instinct of our horses to warn us of the approach of any one, but this was a complete surprise. We at once took position with revolver in each hand, and allowed the lady to open the door.

Three charming daughters of the South file in unbeknown to them that we were there. They had come out after dark to make our hostess and daughters a call, not daring to leave their home in daylight. We at once threw up our hands and cried surprise.

After our supper the ladies sang for us and we enjoyed a few hours most pleasantly, although the ladies would sing nothing but Southern songs. We were not particular as to what they sang, as our objective point was a square meal.

The time rapidly slipped by when we must return to camp. Here was a new dilemma—how were we to get the private into camp? Well, we started on our return, and on the way concocted the story for the pickets. We were duly challenged at the picket-line. One man riding ahead up to the picket, asked them if they had been informed of our being out? "Yes; that's all right." But, say, we have been near Cedar Creek and captured one of Early's scouts, and we are taking him to Custer. "All right; pass in."

We were not long in making our camp from the picket-line. I heard one of the reserve pickets remark: "Those scouts must have rode like— to have gone to Cedar Creek and back in four hours."

We scented a commotion on the picket-line when the officer heard our story. They started at once for Custer's headquarters to see if we were honest. We were not there, but they reported all the same. Custer had no scouts out, and we must be the enemy. "Search the camp!" We were not long in unsaddling and crawling into our dog-tents, even pulling off our spurs when snoring. We were the first to inquire what the rumpus was, and was told of our entering the lines. If they had thought even to lift some of the blankets on our horses they would have readily discovered the horses that had been in camp. But we did not suggest this, and good luck again befell us, and our horses gave no signs as they munched their hay.—S. A. CLARKE, Co. F, 1st. Vt. Cav., Willow Lakes, N. D.

A Gay Scene.

No more brilliant scene can be imagined than a dancing palace in the Isle of Man at what may be called high tide. The floor is immense; four or five thousand young women are dancing on it; the young men in tennis flannels and colored scarfs, the young women in light muslin and straw hats. You sit in the gallery and look down. Sometimes the white lights in the glass roof are covered with red and blue and yellow, and these tints are cast on to the dancers. This simple artifice is astounding in its effects. The mere sense of size and the presence of so much life must count for a great deal. You have to witness the scene in order to realize its extraordinary fascination. The low buzz of the dancers' feet, the clang and clash of the brass instruments, the boom of the drum, the quake of the great glass house itself, and the low rumble of the hollow floor beneath—it is like one thing only that I can dream of or imagine—a battlefield set to music.

Trials of Tourists.

There turned up at Hamilton, in the Bermudas, the other day, a company of several hundred British tourists, including Sir Arthur Sullivan and many musical and literary folks of some distinction. They were a sorry and bedraggled crowd, and their appearance was partly explained by the fact that they had left a six weeks' washing ashore at one of the far down islands and had come away without it, so that everybody was at a low ebb of linen. They were cheered with the hope that the British cruiser Blake, whose captain had promised to fetch up the missing garments, would soon arrive in the harbor. This hope was disappointed, for the excursionists left on schedule time, a few hours before the arrival of the Blake with their linen. Those that saw them at Hamilton are wondering how they looked on reaching Great Britain.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Important Measures Considered by Our Lawmakers.

TRUESDAY—These House bills passed finally in the Senate: To prevent the issuing of fraudulent tax receipts.

To authorize foreign glue companies to maintain buildings and establishments in this State.

For the more immediate care and support of indigent insane persons committed on criminal charges less than felony.

To increase the bonus to be paid by corporations on the renewal of their charters and on being hereafter incorporated from 1-4 to 1-2 per cent.

To authorize county commissioners to sell to actual settlers and convey unsettled lands.

To legalize dehorning cattle.

To fix standard weight of bushel of clover seed at 60 pounds.

House bill to prevent purchase of salt pork sugar cured ham and dried beef outside of Pennsylvania for any charitable institution receiving state aid.

Mr. Egan amended the House plumbing bill by greatly abridging it and requiring plumbers to pass an examination to be examined, licensed and registered.

These House bills passed finally: To prohibit adulteration of milk by addition of so-called preservatives.

Making appropriations to Western Penitentiary, Eastern Penitentiary, Conwellsville Cottage Hospital, to National Guard, Danville Hospital, State Board of Health, Chickamauga, Chattahoochee battlefields commission, Mercer State Hospital, to adjutant general's department to continue employment of two muster roll clerks; for maintenance of indigent insane.

To authorize sale of lands where channels of navigable streams have been abandoned for purposes of navigation.

To provide that none but citizens of the United States shall be employed on public buildings.

WEDNESDAY.—The bill creating the office of deputy auditor general passed finally in the House to-day by a vote of 163 to 25. The House has completely reversed itself on this measure. Three weeks ago it was defeated by a vote of 69 for to 96 against. It was subsequently reconsidered and remained undisturbed on the calendar this morning, when it was called up by Mr. McClain, of Lancaster, and passed finally after it had been fully explained.

The House concurred in the Senate amendments to the bill providing that none but citizens of the United States shall be employed in the erection of any public work. The Senate amendments provide that the provisions of the act shall not apply to any public work on which the cost thereof is met in whole or part by assessments for benefits.

In the Senate to-day these House bills finally passed: To give half the fines under the oleomargarine act to the dairy and food commissioner instead of the informer of violations of the law.

The House general revenue bill was reported affirmatively with amendment to reduce the tax on foreign building and loan associations from 2 per cent. to 5 mills. The House bill passed finally to prohibit exhibitions of physical or mental deformities in certain public places.

LAST DAY.—The senate buried the judges' pension bill to-day. It has been given a special order for final passage, its friends having some hope that they might get it through, but when Senator Grady moved that it be recommended to committee there was no dissenting voice.

The senate also ended the life of the new revenue bill which has caused much time and money to get together. It was referred to the committee, whence it will never emerge. In order, however, to make a test of its value as a revenue producer, the auditor-general will for the next two years keep two separate statements of the receipts that come into the office; one statement will be kept according to the system provided for in the new and rejected revenue bill, and the other under the existing law.

The houses to-night was the constant scene of turbulence and hilarity. The members indulged in all sorts of pranks incident to the last night of the session. Amid a continuous babble of voices, the loud explosion of large and small fire crackers, the burning of red lights in corners, and various other methods of making a noise, the house passed some and defeated other bills on the calendar. Among those rejected was the Andrews bill providing for the building by the Pennsylvania railroad company of a fence along its lines in Crawford county.

The house got into a wild turmoil over the bill making it unlawful for foreign building and loan associations to establish offices or to employ agents in this state. The bill was on its final passage, but the house defeated it.

The bill to tax beer 24 cents a barrel was smothered in an obscure corner at the request of the administration circles.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

The Bishop of London has joined the ranks of the woman suffragists.

Julius Verne, the French novelist, though in his seventy-ninth year, works for five or six hours a day.

One of the German Emperor's recent projects to his sons was an exact model in clay of the battlefield of Sedan.

The Chinese Emperor rises at 4 every morning and studies English and Manchu until 5, when he breakfasts.

Nasrullah Khan, the second son of the Ameer of Afghanistan, arrived in England and was shown distinguished courtesies.

The chemist Bunsen, famed for his discovery in spectroscopy analysis and a hundred other scientific matters, is in his eighty-fifth year.

Prince George, of Greece, has the distinction of having saved more lives at the risk of his own than any other member of a royal house.

The illuminated manuscript copy of the Gospels set to flintstone by the Armenians is said to be finer than anything in the British Museum.

Twenty-five years ago James J. Hill, President of the Great Northern Railroad, was a freight clerk on the steamboat docks of St. Paul, Minn., at a salary of \$40 a month.

Philip D. Armour, the Chicago packer, is a victim of dyspepsia and indigestion on bread and milk. Occasionally he allows himself a baked apple for breakfast as a great indulgence.

Ballington Booth, Commander-in-Chief of the Salvation Army in America, and his wife, have renounced allegiance to Queen Victoria and become citizens of the United States.

Count Ito, the first of the oriental diplomats, is one Japanese statesman who did not come of a noble family. He began his career as a telegraph operator, without any influential friends or connections.

It is said that the estate of George W. Vanderbilt in the mountains near Asheville, N. C., has already cost its owner \$4,000,000, and it is believed it will require \$2,000,000 to bring it to the desired perfection.

John La Farge, whom France has signally honored by appropriating to his pictures an entire room at the Champs de Mars salon, is sixty years old, though he looks much younger. Since the death of Inness he has been the dean of American artists.

Professor Babcock, of the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, an eminent lung specialist, was born totally blind. His misfortune has rendered his sense of hearing peculiarly acute and his diagnosis by the stethoscope exceptionally successful.

Count Bonifacio de Castellano, who married Miss Anna Gould, daughter of the late Jay Gould, has bought for \$600,000 ground on the avenue Bois de Boulogne, in Paris, on which he will build a palace. He is buying race horses in England and France, and is forming an unrivaled stable.



NEAT MORNING GOWNS OF SUMMER SILK.

Another artistic frock is of pale blue organdie muslin, sprayed with forget-me-nots. The skirt has four flounces, each edged with valenciennes. The full, puffed sleeves are tied with blue and white ribbons, and more ribbons are used for shoulder bows, sash and streamers.

Cycling dress is getting brave. It used to be gray, to avoid showing dust, but now it does not hesitate to be red, because it is no longer the badge of an exercise, but of a fashion. A picturesque cyclist in Central Park wore a green tweed skirt, with white shirt and leather belt, cuffs and collars. Her red serge blazer coat shone out daringly on it twinkling gold buttons. To this she added red serge knickerbockers and a soft red felt hat. She had red ribbons tied to her wheel, and she looked as if life was good and June the best of all months of the year.

Less showy, but quite as novel, maybe, was a green cloth cycling suit, with white silk blouse, all frills and fluffiness. Over this came a green Figaro jacket, faced with white, and a belt and necktie of tartan red and green. No skirt at all was visible, but the knickerbockers were so full you wouldn't have known the difference until you got to the knees. At the knees they stopped, and tartan stockings took their place, helped out by soft cycling shoes.

CASHMERE WORN.

The information that cashmere will be highly favored will be received with satisfaction by many women. There are few fabrics of its kind more dressy looking when stylishly made up than silky French cashmere. Delicate women select even for summer wear fine sheer wool gowns in preference to those of cotton, and if the material is all wool and never so light, it can be cleaned once and again and appear as dainty and fresh as the prettiest of cotton gowns before washing. There is a wonderfully attractive amount of fine beautiful wools now manufactured, the range embracing French veiling, camel's hair, chud-dah, tricot cloth, crepon, Henrietta cloth, fayetta, many varieties of serge and English diagonals, Keyber bison and pilot cloth, chaille, carmelite, crepaline and monselline de laine.

A BIG CHIP HAT.

This hat, seen in a New York millin-

marked off into sections. It is surprising how many absurd fashions women will adopt for the sake of novelty. Every little while this piping and cording idea in some contrasting color gets possession of the fashionable mind and is carried to excess. There certainly is nothing particularly attractive in the dress of a woman which suggests the results of some topographical survey with chalked outlines and cross-lines.

A PRETTY PELISSE FOR A LITTLE GIRL.

This is a child's pelisse in turquoise-blue faille. The back is formed with two wide plaits. Cape with insertion and lace of muslin applique. Satin



LITTLE GIRL'S PELISSE.

ruche round the neck and cuffs. Hat in fancy straw and lace to match the pelisse. Large bow of white satin ribbon, striped with gauze.

The Alpine tunnel, thirty-four miles east of Gunnison, Col., after remaining closed five years, is being cleaned out again for use. The tunnel is 12,000 feet high, but there is one in the Andes 18,645 feet above sea level. Water boils very easily at this height.