

THE CHANGING STYLES.

SOME NEW DESIGNS THAT ARE TASTEFUL AND DRESSY.

A Princess Tea Gown Which Has an Air of Elegance. Although it is simple in construction, made of blue and white chamois with fanciful fronts. May Manton writes that blue and white French chamois was the material chosen for this model garment, the



LADIES' PRINCESS TEA GOWN.

decoration being cream-white lace and insertion. Although quite simple in construction, it has an air of elegance that distinguishes it from the ordinary house gown. The backs are trimly ad-

low the waist line forming a stylish pointed effect. The sleeves, of latest design, are prettily pointed and flare deeply over the hands with bands of passementerie and lace employed as decoration. The tops of sleeves present a puff of diminished size daintily caught through the centre with an outstanding ruffle composed of finely plaited mousseline. At the neck is a close standing band of passementerie with the indispensable and becoming soft finish of lace above.

With this stylish basque is worn a toque from Virot composed entirely of violets delightfully mingled with ribbon shading from the palest lavender to a deep rich shade of violet, a handsome rhinestone buckle ornamenting the front.

To make this basque for a lady in the medium size will require three yards of forty-four-inch material.

Variation in Shirt Waists.

The ever popular shirt waist has taken on still another variation. As here shown the material is plain unfigured gingham in pale leaf-green with belt, collar, cuffs and closing box-pleat of a plain combining the green with cream and lines of pure white. The distinctive features are the yoke back and full fronts. It is fitted closely to the figure by means of shoulder seams and an under-arm piece. The bias strip that forms the plait is laid over the plain goods and stitched into place. Either studs or small pearl buttons can be used as a means of closing. The fulness in the front is drawn well toward the closing plait and in the back toward the centre. The sleeves are gathered at the shoulder and are supplied with detachable cuffs for the opening at the wrist. If worn with detachable cuffs they are gathered into a straight band. Cuffs and collars can be either attached or made separate to be kept in place by studs. But the latter method is preferred by most women as enabling them to keep always



STYLISH FANCY BASQUE

justed to the figure by means of a centre seam and curving side back seams, while the fronts have double bust-darts and a deep under-arm dart that renders the fitting perfect. The full front and back present the wattle effect, that is particular pleasing in tea gowns or wrappers. Below the waist line the seams of the garment gradually expand, affording the requisite fulness to the skirt, which has a foot decoration in the form of a narrow ruffle of lace headed with a band of insertion. Bands of insertion are applied to simulate a yoke, and the closing is effected invisibly at the centre-front. The lower edge of the yoke is defined by a full bertha of the material, which is mitred to form three graceful points that fall over the sleeves, with insertion and lace daintily decorating the edges. The sleeves are one-seamed and are shirred along the edges, producing the mousquetaire effect. They are arranged on two-seamed linings, finishing at the wrists in bell shape. A crush collar of taffeta covers the close-fitting collar that finishes the neck.

Dainty gowns of wool, cotton or wash fabrics can be attractively developed by the model, and lace and insertion or embroidery will be suitable for decoration.

To make this wrapper for a lady in the medium size will require ten yards of forty-four-inch material.

Ladies' Fancy Basque.

In the two-column design, says May Manton, black moire velours and handsome passementerie are stylishly united, with the inevitable touch of red introduced in the full vest and sleeve decorations. The fanciful fronts are simply arranged over smooth linings that close in the centre, the jacket fronts flaring apart, disclosing the vest portion of mousseline over satin that closes under the left front edge. The smooth yoke bolero is included in the right shoulder, arm's-eye and under-arm seams and closes invisibly on the left. The back is rendered glove-fitting by the usual seams, the shaping be-

fresh and dainty without consigning the entire waist to the tub at the expiration of a single day's wear. The style is well suited to all gingham or organdies, silk wett zephyrs and similar cotton materials as well as inexpensive wash and India silks. As illustrated the tie matches the collar after the style that is most popular, but if the latter be made detachable can be alternated with white ones worn with a stock and so make greater variety. The range of choice in both ties and collars is well nigh limitless and a second great advantage of the detachable collar is the fact that it allows freedom of selection in place of binding the wearer to one style.

To make this waist for a lady in the medium size will require three and



SHIRT WAIST OF UNFIGURED GINGHAM, one-fourth yards of thirty-six-inch material.

The beet sugar bounty law just enacted in Michigan provides that the State shall pay to the farmer four cents a pound for all the beet sugar he raises, and one cent a pound to the man who manufactures the sugar.

BERRIES IN THE SOUTH.

THE BUSINESS OF RAISING SMALL FRUITS FOR NORTHERN MARKETS.

A Strawberry Enterprise in Louisiana—How the Early Berry Came to Chicago at Cold-Storage Temperatures—Glimpses of Berry Pickers at Work

Less than a dozen years ago, says a Hammond (La.) letter to the Chicago Record, a little colony of Chicago and Illinois people came down here to join others from different sections of the country in founding a new town. Among the number who were active in giving the place a good start was J. F. Merry, of the Illinois Central Railroad, who offered every reasonable inducement to those who desired to take up their abode in a warmer climate than that of Chicago.

Early in its upward growth Hammond began supplying Chicago tables

weigh 100 pounds and it costs \$2 to transport the six cases by express to the Chicago market. By freight the tariff is less. The time by express is twenty-four hours faster. Quite recently the express company has found it necessary to charter a special engine and crew by which a train of strawberries exclusively is rushed to Chicago at high speed.

There are 250 people living in or near Hammond who ship from one to fifty cases of berries daily. Patches run from one to five acres, though ten-acre fields are not unknown. Ben and "Raz" Rogers were the pioneer strawberry growers and shippers at this point. They began fifteen years ago and acquired a fortune in the business. They had formerly been engaged in breeding goats. They were led by chance to set out some strawberry plants which produced a return compared with which goatflesh dropped out of sight.

The venture of the Rogers brothers



A GANG OF BERRY PICKERS.

with the most luscious fruit of the South. Since last Christmas it has been shipping strawberries to Chicago and is now supplying the Northern market with the pickings of the second crop.

The great desideratum at the start was to get the fruit to market quickly. In this matter the corporation which began fostering the town at the start came to the relief of the berry growers by inaugurating and finally perfecting a refrigerator service that went far toward filling the requirements.

The average here probably exceeds 1500 and it is increasing yearly. A single day's shipment has reached as high as five carloads and nearly the entire output goes to Chicago.

Some of the growers have realized big profits in the berry business. James Gould is said to have made \$700 from an acre patch in a single season. Mrs. E. F. Brown, whose place is within a mile of Hammond, told the Record correspondent that she had cleared \$150 from her single acre.

This season has been too wet for strawberries. When shipped wet, in which condition they have frequently been sent away, the berries fail to stand the trip to Chicago, and are little more than an unsightly mass of pounce when the commission men receive them. It is said that there has not been four consecutive sunny days during the present season, and the growers have been forced to pick berries wet or let them rot.

Whether or not people get wealthy raising berries alone, it seems that they do acquire a competency. The city homes and the little adjoining farms are models. There are no unpainted houses in the community. Everything is as neat and trim as a new pin. The house grounds are veritable bowers,

and the most beautiful of the city valuations in cities or the third class where the school district comprises the same territory as the city.

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An act punishing the sending of anonymous communications of a libelous, defamatory, scurrilous or opprobrious nature.

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A communication was presented by Mr. Woodruff, of Philadelphia, from the Philadelphia board of trade, protesting against the bill permitting the deduction from the assessed valuation of property for taxation the amount of all bona fide judgments and mortgages.

OFFERED UP HIS BOY.

A Colored Preacher Sacrificed His Son Like Abraham.

Oscar Williams, a country colored preacher, residing in a settlement four miles from Elba, Ala., left home with his ten-year-old son Isaac. He told a neighbor as he passed that the Lord had appeared to him in a vision and commanded him to sacrifice his boy.

The neighbor thought but little of the old man's remark for the moment, but a half hour afterward recollected that he had the Sunday before preached on the story of Abraham and Isaac with singular earnestness, and expressed his willingness to obey the Lord's command to the extent that Abraham had done.

He followed the old man and came upon him in a thicket standing over his son's dead body, which was strapped to a log. He had a bloody knife in his hand and his eyes were raised heavenward. Blood still flowed from the boy's gaping throat, which had been severed from ear to ear. When asked why he had done this deed, the man declared that the Lord had commanded him to do so, and then turned and walked away, his neighbor being too dazed to stop him.

Arrangements have been made for the simultaneous lighting of bonfires on every prominent height in Great Britain on the night of the anniversary of Queen Victoria's coronation.

PITH AND POINT.

The Cynic—"Men don't paint their faces." The Fair Observer—"And women don't paint the town."—Puck. "Don't you think, Grumpy, that Miss Harshly is a beautiful singer?" "Very. But she can't sing."—Detroit Free Press.

He—"You girls seem to be awfully fond of sweets." She—"And you seem to be awfully fond of sour."—Cornell Widow.

She (coming up suddenly)—"Where did that wave go?" He (coughing and struggling)—"I swallowed it."—Dublin World.

Tramp (at dentist's door)—"I'd like my teeth filled." Dentist—"What with—gold or silver?" Tramp—(angrily)—"Oh, just plain bread will do."—Pink-Me-Up.

"When Fratters played Hamlet down at San Frustino did the audience egg him on when he reached his heroics?" "Not exactly. They egged him off."—Judge.

"Becker—"I see by the posters that Footlights, the tragedian, travels under his wife's management." Decker—"So do most men, only they don't advertise it."—London Tit-Bits.

Briggs—"I'm thinking of moving over to your boarding-house." Griggs—"What for?" Briggs—"My doctor told me not to eat anything with my meals."—Detroit Free Press.

They had been talking about the Sandwich Islands. "Are you in favor of annexation?" the young man asked, and the maiden replied coyly: "Oh, George, this is so sudden!"—Twinkles.

"You don't even dress me decently," she cried. "I'm going home to papa." "All right," replied Doolittle; "you might say to him also that I need a new suit myself."—Philadelphia North American.

Crane—"Simpers seems all broken up. I wonder what's the trouble?" Polk—"His wife has engaged in loubie dealing; she presented him with twins this morning."—Philadelphia North American.

Every father should buy a savings bank for his children. Its possession is sure to encourage habits of economy in them; and, besides, it is a handy place to go when he wants small change.—Somerville Journal.

Author—"You have no idea how many stamps I use posting my manuscripts to various editors." Critic—"Very likely. I think there ought to be excursion tickets for manuscripts at reduced rates."—London Tit-Bits.

He—"Do you remember when first we met? The dew was on the grass, the air was full of summer scents, and—" She—"Yes; and now there's no summer, no dew, no grass and no scents. By the way, have you heard of my engagement?"—Detroit Free Press.

"I had my defiance into your very teeth!" she exclaimed with heaving bosom. "Ha! ha!" sneered her persecutor. For hers was a crude age, and women were not as yet received at those seats of learning where they play basket-ball and things and become adept at throwing.—Puck.

Horse-Breeding in Tennessee.

Blue grass, native to the soil, is gradually predominating in a State where every square foot of open land is covered with grass of some kind. Watered by plentiful springs and rills, this territory, where cattle need to be housed only two months in the year, affords ideal conditions for the cultivation of live stock; and although over three millions of acres of good pasture in the State are unfenced and scarcely utilized, Tennessee is famous for the extent and perfection of its stock farms. One establishment alone for breeding race-horses, is valued at two and a half millions of dollars, its oldest stallion at a quarter of a million, and at its annual sales yearlings average two thousand dollars a head. Running, trotting and pacing thoroughbreds lead the industry; yet the number of registered kine in the State is exceptionally large, and Tennessee wool took the gold medal over all competitors at the World's Fair, London, in 1851.—Century.

A Champion Lightweight.

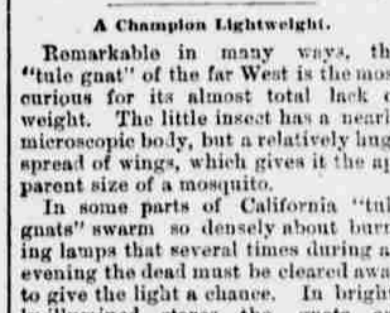
Remarkable in many ways, the "tule gnat" of the far West is the most curious of its almost total lack of weight. The little insect has a nearly microscopic body, but a relatively huge spread of wings, which gives it the apparent size of a mosquito.

In some parts of California "tule gnats" swarm so densely about burning lamps that several times during an evening the dead must be cleared away to give the light a chance. In brightly-illuminated stores the gnats are veritable pests, and it was in a Lake County (Cal.) drug store that a curious experiment was recently made. As many gnats were collected as could be sealed upon a pan of the apothecary's scales; the smallest weight in use to measure the most delicate drugs was then put upon the opposite pan and was found to overbalance the mountain of gnats.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Rescued by a Canine Samsou.

Wilbur Stevens, a six-year-old youngster of Gardenville, N. Y., fell into the river while flying his kite. A big St. Bernard dog named Samsou, which was assisting at the ascension, plunged into the water after him. The banks of the river were too steep for the rescuer to climb, and he was obliged to swim a long distance downstream before he could land his little burden. The boy was none the worse for his ducking, the dog having kept the boy's head above water all the time.—New York Mail and Express.

RECEIVING CASES OF BERRIES FROM GROWERS.



new service was inaugurated by the American Express Company, which had not been attempted in other years. Heretofore regular trains for berries had not been put on until the crop was well along in the season, the output being handled by regular freight trains, which, however, made fast time.

Recently George F. Nosler, formerly connected with the American company at New Orleans, was made general agent of the company at Chicago. He interested his people in the berry business of his former neighbors, with the result that a special line of refrigerator cars was put into the Southern berry trade. The cars are of the most modern type and fruit is packed in them and delivered from them in Chicago at the same temperature. Cars are left at such towns as Hammond, Amite City, Tick Faw, Ponchatoula and Independence. A freight train gathers them up and runs them to McComb City, where the cars are refilled with ice and then hooked on the Government fast mail. Berries picked on Saturday morning may be on Chicago breakfast tables on Monday morning.

Six twenty-four pint boxes of berries

abounding in magnolia trees and in foliage and flowers of many varieties. The houses are mostly of the cottage order. These new Southerners display a commendable outlay in home improvements.

Birds as Ventriloquists.

When you are out for a country walk, and hear the cuckoo's cry, just endeavor, if he is not already in sight, to place him by the sound. You simply can't do it! It's been tried dozens of times, and always unsuccessfully. And if the cuckoo is calling quite near you in a thick wood, you will probably be unable to tell even which side of you he is. Nor is the cuckoo the only bird which possesses this queer power of ventriloquism. The robin, and sometimes the thrush will alter their notes in such a way as to completely puzzle you whether they are twenty yards away or nearer fifty. Above all the "cat-bird," a little grey native of America, will make you fancy a young kitten is weakly miaowing in the road under your feet, while all the time the little cup is laughing at you from the sumach-bush 100 feet away.—Answers.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Abstract of the Important Measures in Both Houses.

May 10.—The Morgan Cuban resolution was discussed at considerable length in the Senate to-day. For the first time since the debate began the opposition sentiment expressed itself. The senator said few real Americans were imprisoned in Cuba. He had never heard of the genuine Yankee among them.

The House to-day resumed the transaction of public business which had been suspended since the Indian appropriation bill was sent to conference three weeks ago. The consideration of the Senate amendments to the sundry civil appropriation bill was entered upon under a special order providing for a recess each day until disposed of.

The vote which last night defeated the bill to prevent fraud in the manufacture of cheese was reconsidered and action postponed for the present.

May 11.—The resolution introduced by Mr. Morgan, Democrat, Alabama, declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba, was taken up in the Senate to-day and went over until tomorrow. Mr. Morrill, Republican, Vermont, spoke in opposition to it, saying that the purpose of all the Cuban resolutions was to wrest from the executive the right to alone hitherto had exercised of recognizing the belligerent rights or the independence of nations.

The House to-day voted to non-concur in the Senate amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill revoking the traffic reservation order made by President Cleveland and the bill was sent to conference.

The House non-concurred in the Senate amendment requiring the Secretary of War to appoint a superintendent of the traffic through the locks of the Monongahela river as soon as the government comes into possession of the works of the Monongahela Navigation company.

May 12.—The Senate committee on foreign relations to-day decided upon an adverse report upon Senator Allen's resolution expressing sympathy with the Greeks in their war with Turkey on the ground that the subject had been covered in the action of the Senate of last session on a resolution of which Senator Cameron was the author.

Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire to-day presented an amendment which he proposes to offer to the tariff bill against goods which are the product of convict labor. The Immigration and the kinesthetic bills were reached during the day, but went over on objections.

May 13.—The Indian Appropriation bill was disposed of by the House to-day, with the exception of the provision for opening the Utah granite lands, which was postponed until Monday. The conference report which establishes an Indian warehouse at Omaha, ratifies the lease of the Seneca oil lands, and adds one to the Indian territorial courts, was adopted by a vote of 54 to 47. Nearly two hours were consumed in a parliamentary squabble on the point raised by Mr. Wheeler, of Alabama, that the rule for semi-weekly sessions was in violation of the constitution.

After a long period of calm, the Senate was considerably excited to-day, not by a discussion of the Senate sugar investigation, and then by a preliminary skirmish on the tariff bill. The Allen resolution to bring Eiverton E. Chapman before the bar of the Senate was debated in somewhat monotonous style until Mr. Tullman, of South Carolina, gave a present interest to the subject by referring to reports that senators, within the last week, had speculated in sugar stock.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

May 10.—The Senate passed a large number of bills through the different readings to-night, but the legislation acted upon is of little interest. The bill to provide for the granting of liquor licenses upon the basis of population was defeated.

The House devoted the evening to passing bills on second reading. Some of the bill-burgers thought that the Rodgers charter would come up tonight, but it will not be acted upon until Thursday.

May 11.—The Keefer bill, authorizing school directors and controllers to levy a per capita tax of from \$1 to \$2 annually for school purposes on adults over 21 years of age, and the Senate bill to provide for establishing a house of detention for juveniles in cities of the first class, passed finally.

The bill to authorize cities of the third class to make regulations for the licensing of stationary steam engines in said cities was defeated on third reading.

The following bills passed the Senate finally:

An act to provide for levying school and school building taxes on the city valuation in cities or the third class where the school district comprises the same territory as the city.

An act authorizing and recording of all releases, contracts, letters of attorney and other instruments of writing, when a married woman is or shall be authorized by law to execute without the joinder of her husband, making the record thereof of the same force and effect for all purposes as if unrecorded, and validating the records thereof made prior to the passage of this act.

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