

EASTER.

Frail, trembling hands outreached in eager groping... If, haply through the shadows of the tomb...

He whom ye seek behind yon gloomy portal— Mingling your burial spices with your tears—

How shall ye know? Not by the radiant altars Whose incense draws the fainting lilies' breath...

Sad fettered souls long held in self's dim prison, Bound fast by error, ignorance, or pride...

—Harper's Bazar.

EASTER CUSTOMS.

The Typical Use of the Egg is Common to All Countries.

This year Easter falls in April, so that in some localities we may really enjoy the soft air, the green of the grass...

The egg in some form or other has been a type of the new life from the very beginning of the Christian era...

In Russia, as early as 1589, eggs colored red, typifying the blood of Christ shed as an atonement for our sins...

Hyde, in his description of Oriental sports, tells of one with eggs among the Christians of Mesopotamia on Easter day...

herewith. Not only is it light as air and perfectly durable, but it supplies nature's deficiencies without detection.

It is used principally in a new development of the Victorian style, arranged in three high loops on top of the head...

Flowers play an important part in the recent designs for brooches. Among the blossoms which seem to be favorites are violets with petals spread apart...

The smartest toques and bonnets and picture hats flaunt gorgeous bouquets of ribbon in place of glass-eyed little songsters...

Millinery Hints. The smartest toques and bonnets and picture hats flaunt gorgeous bouquets of ribbon in place of glass-eyed little songsters...

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THE REALM OF FASHION.

Novelties in Hairdressing.

How to dress the hair in a becoming manner, and at the same time carry a load as possible, is a problem that will try the brains of women during the coming spring months.

The problem has been partly solved by the inventor of what is known as the "simplex" foundation. It is used in building up the coiffure produced



BUILDING UP THE COIFFURE.

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TAPPING THE RUBBER TREE.

How the Valuable Gum is Extracted in South American Forests. In South American natives are hired by rubber contractors to penetrate the forests and secure the gum of the rubber tree.



TAPPING A RUBBER TREE.

Rubber trees when carefully tapped yield abundantly for forty or fifty years, but if the incisions go too deep the process of decay starts at once, and their period of productivity is over forever.

A Doctor's Telephone Lines. Discussing a bill to tax telephone lines, Mr. Dougherty said recently in the Illinois Legislature: "Over here in Hancock County there is a wealthy doctor who has been building telephone lines."

A Sixth Sense in Pigeons. Captain Renaud, the French specialist in charge of the military pigeon service, is a firm believer in a sixth sense in pigeons and other birds and animals.

The Part of a Friend. Honest men esteem the value of nothing so much in this world as a real friend. Such a one is, as it were, another self, to whom we impart our most secret thoughts.

Potato Like a Human Foot. This potato poses as a human foot. It came, recently, from the store of potatoes in the cellar of Elihu Gresham, who owns a large store near Havercamp, N. Y.



Potato Mistaken for a Human Foot. It is of unusual size. It shows all the toes complete, and it has a remarkable veining, most unusual in potato skin.

ORIGIN OF EASTER.



ASTERTIDE, the oldest church festival, comes down to us from the ancient Hebrews. With them, however, the time was not associated with the death and resurrection of Christ...

It is from this that the Easter egg custom springs, and centuries ago, even before the birth of Christ, colored eggs were given and received by the celebrants of the feast.

With the Hebrews the festival was called Pasch, and the name still lives, with slight alterations, among many nations. The French call the festival Paques; the Dutch term it Paschen; the Danes Paaske, and the Swedes Pask.

Accordingly, councils met in all the countries, as well as at Rome, but, alas, for visions of harmony, they could not agree. They finally decided to recognize the day as their respective fathers before them had done, and no sect should censure the other for a difference of opinion.

Many warm and even bitter discussions still continued on the subject of Easter celebrations, and it finally led to the great emperor, Constantine, in 325, issuing an order for the dispute to be settled by the council of Nice.

On the 14th day of the first lunar month the Jews observed with all the solemnity and regard for the Mosaic law the Feast of the Passover; thus they celebrated the death of Christ as represented by the Paschal Lamb.

After continuing their debates, pro and con, for several months, the ecclesiastical dignitaries announced that the bitterly waged war of dispute was settled. Easter day was for all time to be the first Sabbath immediately following the fourteenth day of the March moon.

The word Easter is derived from a Pagan goddess of the early Teutons called Ostera. The German word for Easter is Ostern, but some philologists maintain that both the German and English words come from the ancient Saxon word Oster, or Osten, meaning "rising."

Ostera was worshipped very generally in northern Germany, and it is believed that the fame of the goddess spread to England, where the Saxons joined in worshipping her.

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ling of great bonfires and in other ways, and even to-day in some of the remote districts where many superstitious beliefs are treasured by the peasantry the fame of Ostera still lives.

The early Christians made the Easter celebration extend over a period of eight days, but in the eleventh century the festival was reduced to three days, and later to one day. In olden days Easter was the popular time for baptism.

The resurrection of Christ, but with the season of the year when the earth pours forth its freshest blossoms and the re-creation of nature—the springing forth of life in the spring.

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THE EDEN LILY.



Let thy Garments be Always white

ECCLIES. IX 8

When God bid run Euphrates' stream, Ere yet man came to earth, For Faith and Virtue's future theme He gave the lily birth.

He robed it as Himself divine, Gave to its heart the gold And majesty of royal line, In simple, snowy fold.

Our parents loved the many flowers They found in Eden blest; The poetry of all the hours— But hailed the lily best!

They tell that fallen man long doomed At last has met the light; That Israel's Lily now has bloomed On altars pure and white.

When the Archangel came and walked The groves all golden shod, Gravely to Adam, Michael talked Of purity and God.

Then pointing to the lily fair, Said, "Though you bring the gloom Of death to earth, this lily rare Shall typify the Bloom."

The angels now around the Throne Circling are singing on, When Easter brings the lifted stone, And fear from earth has gone.

—James Riley, in Boston Bouquet.

enjoyment. Popular sports and dances were added, and the joyous solemnity of the day bade fair to be ruined.

While many curious observances cluster about Easter, the egg as an emblem of resurrection was, and is most generally used by all Nations. De Gebelin has connected it with the ancient Egyptians, Persians, Greeks and Romans, and Dr. Schwartz finds that it was customary among the Persians to distribute rod eggs at their spring festival.

Easter Symbols. "Papa, what makes my candy rabbit's ears stick up so?" "I'm almost afraid to say so, little daughter, but I think he's scared at your mother's Easter hat."

A Poached Egg.



Eggs were held by the Egyptians as a sacred emblem of the renovation of mankind after the deluge. The Jews adopted them to suit the circumstances of their history as a type of their departure from the land of Egypt; they were also used in the feast of the Passover.

The Syrians believed that the gods from whom they claimed descent were hatched from mysteriously laid eggs. Hence we infer that our present custom of offering the Easter egg emblem has the heathen legends for its origin; in fact all our most precious festivals come down from similar sources, but purified with the light of Christianity.

THE EASTER BIRTH.

Again the flower-shoot cleaves the clod; Again the grass spear greens the sod; Again buds dot the willow rod.

The sap released within the tree Is like a prisoned bird set free, And mounteth upward buoyantly.

Once more at purple evening dream The tender-voiced, enamoured stream Unto the rush renews its theme.

How packed with meaning this new birth Of all the growing things of earth— Life springing after death and death!

—Christina Scott.

ment. The entire arrangement is pretty, light and becoming to most features.

Hints About Walking Costumes.

The cotton gowns are now being built very much on the lines of the winter models. The paquin skirt is admirably adapted to thin fabrics of all kinds, as the circular flounce gives a pretty fullness about the feet.

Belts, Clasps and Brooches. An embossed silver prayer bookcase has a blue ribbon enameled around the edges.

A silver gilt spoon has a design of ferns for the handle and the bowl is enameled to represent the United States shield.

tive decoration. The giddiest headpieces from Paris, sent over as models, fairly bristle with bows, in the making of which there has sprung up a small art all to itself.

Up-to-Date Sailor Hat. The early straw sailor hats will be trimmed with loops of ribbon and one or more quills. It is evident that this is to be a floral season, and many of the imported toques are composed of

flowers and leaves. Fine flowers are used for the crown and brim, and roses with leaves wired into aigrets.



SAILOR HAT.

Donkeys in Demand. In South Africa there is a great demand for donkeys, as they are proof against climate, plague and flies.