



### FOR WOMAN'S BENEFIT

#### Cruise Among the Islands

Queen Alexandra dearly loves the sea, and she has planned a yachting cruise among the Florida for her summer holiday. The king's engagements will forbid his accompanying her, but the Princess Victoria, and possibly the Princess Charles of Denmark, will share the trip.

#### New Stocks

The new stocks are very chic. Those of white plique have tiny bows of colored lawn dotted with white, or white dotted with color. Instead of the tie crossing in the back a novel idea is introduced. The stock fastens in the back, and at one end the tie is stitched exactly in the middle. When the stock is fastened the ends of the tie are drawn around to the front and tied in a chic little bow. There are more lawn ties this season than ever before. The white ones with colored borders are very chic, and the colored ones with white borders are equally chic.

#### A Pretty White Waist

An imported white waist is made rather prettily. The body of the waist is made of fine tucks, and the whole of the back where it buttons with small pearl buttons, is of the tucks. The front is tucked with the exception of the yoke, which is appliqued with rose-like lace flowers, in a lace which has the appearance of "val" set on at intervals. The fine nainsook of which the waist is made is cut out under the open centre of each flower. This square yoke is outlined with an inch band of tucking, and the straight standing collar is made of a row of the flowers with a row of tucking on either side. The sleeves are made of the tucking with two rows of the flowers on the plain white running the length of each sleeve, which is finished at the wrist with two rows of tucking with a row of the lace flowers between to match the collar.

#### For Wet Days

Every woman should keep a short skirt for wet weather. It is not only far more convenient than a long one, but its appearance is better, for when hampered with an umbrella, and very likely also battling with the wind, it is impossible to hold up the skirt gracefully.

#### Women who value their health and their complexions will not stay in because the weather is rainy, but will dress suitably for the day and will take their usual outdoor exercise.

On those occasions when one cannot don a short skirt for a walk, it is good plan to loop up the skirt a little on the left side with a safety pin, and then by holding the other side with the hand, the skirt may be kept well out of the mud without being held unhandly high at any point, or being dragged to one side in the very unbecoming manner one often notices among fair pedestrians on a rainy day.

#### The Summer Choker

Chokers are really important features on gowns. As a rule they are close to the neck, and simple, but there is always an attempt to trim them in some original way. A pretty idea is a yoke of lace with the points of the lace making the bottom of the choker. The same lace covers the straight choker, with the base of the choker defined with a line of velvet, making a little point in front. Above this are several more velvet lines that do not meet by several inches in front and end under little silver buttons. These small, flat buttons are used in various ways. On one silk choker are many rows of velvet sewed closely together. The choker is crossed at intervals of about three inches with rows of tiny gold buttons.

#### Treatment of Freckles

The fact that freckles are the usual penalty exacted by nature for the bestowal of a delicate complexion in no way compensates any daughter of Eve for their unwelcome presence. The poet may call them "the kisses of Apollo," but she prefers to dispense with the attentions of the sun god. Probably the least offensive and disfiguring of all skin blemishes, they are the most obstinate to remove. Dermatologists have tried in vain to compound a remedy which should be a permanent cure. It has yet to be found. True, they may be faded, even removed in many cases, after persistent treatment, but with the advent of the warm spring days and summer winds they are very apt to reappear. The summer girl inclined to freckle who yet justly refuses to be harassed when sun, sea and sky woo her, has on hand a perpetual problem.

Freckles are divided into two

#### classes, cold or constitutional freckles, and summer or light freckles. The latter fade gradually, or yield for a time, at least, to mild lotions. The former require almost heroic treatment, which then frequently brings disappointment. It is impossible truthfully to "guarantee" a freckle cure. The very situation of the freckle—below the surface—offers an obstacle. One difficulty in the way of their removal lies in the wide difference in the texture of different skins. A freckle lotion that will have no effect upon one's complexion will irritate and blister that of another.

The chief ingredient which enters into many freckle lotions is acid. An acid will bleach the spots when it reaches them. It must have usually something to draw them nearer to the surface. Ordinary massage of the face will do this gradually, and, by promoting the activity of the skin, in a manner prevent the small deposits of iron. Good facial circulation is a foe to most facial blemishes. The commonest acid and the most effective is lemon juice, pure or diluted, as the skin dictates.—Ladies Monthly.

#### New Ideas in Lingerie

Some clever woman with capital and energy ought to start a laundry for expensive lingerie, where it would be treated with the tender care its beauty and costliness deserve. The need for such a place is less urgent than it used to be in one way, for the modern laundry, does not merit the anathemas that used justly to be hurled at its predecessors, but still there is a want felt. Every year strengthens the love women feel for dainty lingerie, a love which now is reaching a height of devotion.

Silk underwear is what many women like above all other kinds. It is held to be more healthy than lawn, though less so than wool. But, unfortunately, it does not launder well, and that must be a consideration. Now, therefore, numbers are ordering cambric robes de nuit, or, rather, robes de chambre, for, while they will wear for the last chat before the fire the daintiest and loveliest nightdresses underneath their saut de lit, their actual sleeping garb is something less dainty. Of a verity occasions demand their correct toilet at every turn.

#### The most exquisite pattern for the robe de nuit to take is undoubtedly the empire, and some of those now sold might actually be gowns that were worn at the beginning of the 19th century, though then the belles actually walked out in them and must have looked truly nymph-like. The bodice part is closely inset with Valenciennes lace, and there are flounces of lace at the foot beneath a broad band of delicate tucks. A flat V-shaped collar, all inset with lace edged, trims the throat of some, though others are more correctly finished with a narrow "tucker" of lace. The sleeves are a great feature. They reach only to the elbows and are made simply of broad flounces of Valenciennes, with a little lawn to give them a fictitious substance. Such are called folly sleeves, and truly fascinating they are, as folly always is.

No one who is smart calls her dressing gown a dressing gown. The new name is French and is saut de lit. In this lovely and enveloping wrap the best models are made a la Josephine or a l'empire, to use a synonymic term, and soft silk composes them, with insets of lace that suggest a high bodice and, again, full, lovely folly sleeves. But for the delicate and the cold a far more suitable fabric to choose is zennane cloth, since it is silky, exquisitely becoming, of the most ravishing colors and very cosy. Then, too, less elegant, but in their way beautiful, are the dressing gown flannels sold, which, with insets of lace, make charming wraps. Coarse lace is their prerogative, and it aims at a bold and striking effect.—Washington Star.



#### FASHION NOTES

Gold effects on white are much fancied now for either day or evening wear.

Velling of all sorts will undoubtedly continue to be the rage throughout summer.

Black and white and blue is a very good combination this year. In hats they should be worn with corresponding combinations.

Scarf bottles for traveling come in leather cases, which keep them from being scratched or broken when carried in a traveling bag.

Children never look prettier than in bright red hats, and these are always good trimmed with field flowers. Trimmed with black they are also stylish.

"Floppy" soft hats are pretty with the rim softly falling in its natural way and then trimmed with a wreath of flowers with a bow of black velvet in the back.

Something extremely practical to keep erect the dainty muslin and plique stocks now so much worn is a perforated neckband of celluloid. It is easily fastened inside the stock.

A pretty little hat is of blue straw trimmed with daisies. It must be worn with a gown, which it will suit. Daisies, the field flowers, are not good form with elaborate or dress toilets.

Some stylish frocks lace down the back with ribbon through large eyelet holes, the holes growing larger and further apart and the ribbons wider as they descend, until finally there is a finish with a bow just above the flare of the skirt.



#### Children's Column

In Italyland, Woodland green is all a-quiver, fanned by filmy, fairy wings; Tiny princesses and warriors, with grave bows and courtseysings, Knights and ladies, smiling jesters, rings of dancers all a-whirl, Float above the dreaming children, blue-eyed boy and brown-eyed girl.—Christopher Valentine, in St. Nicholas.

#### A Winter Rendezvous for Crows

On the western slope of the picturesque heights on which the suburb of Clifton is located and within the corporate limits of Cincinnati is a grove of quaint oaks and Norway spruce comprising about 25 acres, which has been from time immemorial occupied by myriads of crows as a winter rendezvous and lodging place, and which is of marked interest to strangers who have never visited such a place. There is a law against shooting or in any way disturbing them; so while the country around them is rapidly growing more populous and noisy with the loud voice of industry they live on from year to year unmolested and evidently in fearless enjoyment of their undisputed right.

The ground is owned by a benevolent man who has provided in his will for the protection of the rookery after he is gone; and further provision has been made for them by a noble-hearted woman who died a few years ago, leaving a permanent fund to supply the rookery with food during the coldest weather of winter. Every morning at early dawn during the winter the crows leave their home and go north in a long dark stream that spans the whole arch of the sky and is lost in the purple haze of the distant horizon.

After a flight of 20 or 30 miles they begin to scatter and light in the deserted wheat and corn fields of western Ohio and Indiana, where they spend the day foraging for the waste left by the farmers. In the evening they return in the same sluggish tide, which becomes more and more compact as they near their place of rest.—Chicago Record-Herald.

#### Instinct of Birds

While a British brig was gliding smoothly along before a good breeze in the South Pacific, a flock of small birds about the size, shape and color of paroquets, settled down in the rigging, and passed an hour or more resting. The second mate was so anxious to find out the species to which the visiting strangers belonged that he tried to entrap a specimen, but the birds were too shy to be thus caught, and too spry to be seized by the quick hands of the sailors. At the end of an hour the birds took the brig's course, and disappeared, but toward nightfall they came back and passed the night in the mainmast.

The next morning the birds flew off again, and when they returned at noon the sailors scattered some food about the decks. By this time the birds had become so tame that they hopped about the decks picking up the crumbs. That afternoon an astonishing thing happened. The flock came flying swiftly toward the brig. Every bird seemed to be piping as if pursued by some invisible enemy on wings, and they at once huddled down behind a deck house. The superstitious sailors at once called the captain of the brig, who rubbed his eyes and looked at the barometer. A glance showed that something was wrong with the elements, and the brig was put in shape to outride a storm.

The storm came about 20 minutes after the birds had reached the vessel. For a few minutes the sky was like the waterless bottom of a lake—a vast arch of yellowish mud—and torrents of rain fell. Why it did not pour very hard no one knows; but on reaching port, two days later, they learned that a great tornado had swept across that part of the sea.—Our Dumb Animals.

#### A Very Queer Animal

Dave had two beautiful pussies. One was a tortoise shell and the other a malsese. Dave called one Tag and the other Beauty, and each cat knew her own name and would do several little tricks for Dave. Tag would jump over your hands even when you held them very high up, and Beauty for some Japanese stamps. Dave was Tag and Beauty very dearly, for he had no other pets.

One day Dave brought home a snail turtle that a boy had traded to him for some Japanese stamps. Dave was very proud of that turtle. He took it around to show it to all the family. He found a little old tub and in it made a nice pond for the new pet, with great stones for the turtle to rest on.

Dave played with his turtle so much that Tag and Beauty got quite jealous. Sometimes he forgot to give them any dinner, he was so busy with the turtle. Tag and Beauty made up their minds to just see what that funny animal was like. It must be a new kind of cat, Tag thought, but Beauty believed it was something different.

So one day Beauty put his paws on the edge of the tub and looked in. Where was the new pet? Beauty could see something that looked like a speckled stone resting on top of the other stones. He leaned over to see it closer, but Beauty was heavy and over went the tub. The poor turtle was terribly scared and Mr. Beauty got a fine bath.

Dave used to take the turtle out sometimes to play with it, and so Tag

watched for his chance. One day Dave left the turtle on the floor in the warm sunlight, and the two cats crept up close. Tag put out his paw gently and patted the turtle's shell. The poor little animal drew in its head very quickly, you may be sure of that.

Tag patted the shell again, but the turtle never moved. The two cats looked at one another. It was a very funny animal, they thought. They sat and watched it for a long while. By and by the turtle stuck out its head and looked around. The minute it did that Tag got up, walked over to the queer animal and sat down on it. "I'm sure I don't know what would have been the end of that turtle if Molly hadn't seen the whole thing. She clapped her hands and that scared Mr. Tag. Up he jumped in a burry and dashed out of the room, while Beauty blinked and winked at the sunlight, making believe he never thought of the turtle.

"I wonder if Tag thought your turtle was a sofa pillow?" said Molly, when she told Dave the story. "You'd better be more careful of it after this."—Brooklyn Eagle.

#### A Ride with a Shark

Among the "Queer Steeds" of which C. F. Holder tells in the St. Nicholas, perhaps the queerest is a "nurse" shark, captured at sea, and impounded in a tide-water aquarium in Florida. With no little difficulty we caught the nurse, towed it to the aquarium, which was an inclosed moat half a mile long, 50 feet wide, and from six to eight feet deep. It required a dozen or more men to haul the fish, which was 11 feet in length, over the little tide gate. Just before it was released a rope bridge was passed over it—a loop that fitted over the head and was tightened just behind the fins, so that it remained in place, a perfect saddle-girth. To this a rope about 19 feet long was attached, and in turn made fast to a float. All this was prepared in advance, and it did not require much time to attach it, though the plunges of the shark knocked several men from their feet. Finally all was ready, and the shark was rolled over into the moat, where it went dashing away, the taut float following at the surface.

For some time we had been engaged in building a boat which was to be the carriage of this steed. The masons had given us the frame of a great brick arch upon which they were working. This resembled a scow with square ends. It was a perfect skiff, except that the planks were an inch apart; but we filled these crevices and called it with oakum. The day before the shark was caught the boat was launched and tested, and it was found that it would hold three boys, two on a lower seat, and one on the box seat of the coach. The shark ride was looked forward to with the greatest interest.

Finally the day arrived, and very early, while the great tropical sun was creeping up through the vermilion clouds, we made our way around the wall and to our marine carriage. Being the originator of the scheme, the privilege of the box seat was awarded to me. Literally, this seat was a box—a discarded cracker box. My two companions sat upon a board in the stern to balance the skiff. We were soon in place, and sitting on the box I carefully paddled the little craft out from the tide gate, and began the search for our steed. I paddled down one side of the great wall, keeping perfectly quiet, as every quick movement threatened us with a capsule.

Presently we saw the float lying motionless on the water near the wall. The shark was undoubtedly asleep, little suspecting the rude awakening that was in store for him. I now handed the paddle to one of the boys behind me, and took in hand our painter. The latter is the rope fastened to the boat, and it was my intention to secure this to the float and to arouse the shark.

One of my companions paddled gently, and the flat bottomed boat slowly drifted on. Leaning forward, I picked up the float and quickly ran the painter through a hole that had been left in the float for the purpose, and fastened it with a bowline knot in a very seamanlike manner. When the work was done, I hauled in the slack and gently pulled the rein, while one of the boys "clucked" at the shark and the other said "Gedap!" No response. Then I gave another jerk at the line, and the sharp woke up.

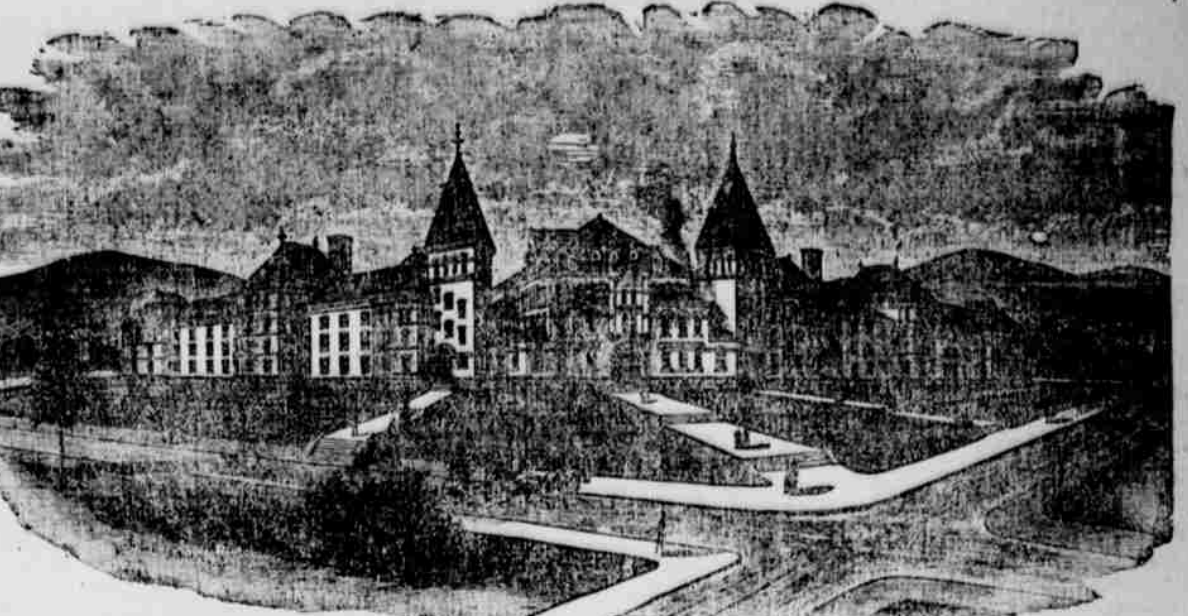
I have often read of boys who wake at sunrise and bound out of bed with a single leap, and have always thought that such sudden awakening could be true only in books. But that was exactly how this shark woke. It fairly leaped out of a sound sleep, and jerked the skiff ahead so violently that the box seat upset and I fell backward upon my companions. The upset was certainly not a very dignified beginning, and I heard a roar of laughter from some fun-loving lookers-on.

The shark, now feeling the rope, dashed along at a rapid pace, making it extremely difficult for us to retain our places; but my companions aided me. Carefully raising me, they righted the box. I secured the painter and held the single rein in triumph. It was a signal success. We had harnessed the shark, and were moving at a rate that was wildly exciting. The speed was so great that the boat was pulled almost bow under, and a wave of foam preceded us. The boys held on tightly, but occasionally raised one hand and waved their hats and cheered when a head appeared at a porthole of the fort.

The King of Portugal is an expert in Ichthyology, and has written several scientific memoirs on the subject. He is very fond of fishing in the sea off the coast of Portugal, where, owing to the extraordinary depth of the water, the forms discovered are of great variety and scientific interest.

# Free Scholarships

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Prof. Byron W. King.

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Persons desiring to enter the contest should begin as early as possible. As soon as the names are sent or handed in to THE STAR office they will be published, but the number of votes will not be published until June 19th, when the vote each contestant has at that time will be published opposite name, and from that to close of contest the vote will be published as counted and returned by the judges from week to week.

On Monday of each week (after June 19th) the ballot box will be opened and the coupons counted by judges.

### THE STAR

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#### RULES OF CONTEST.

Contestants must register their names at THE STAR office.

All coupons must be sent to the secretary of the committee, J. P. Haskins.

All money collected for new subscribers or on subscription due must be sent to this office weekly.

Each contestant will be furnished with printed cards certifying that he or she is a contestant.

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#### Introducing a New Peer.

The house of lords being essentially an ornamental assembly, the ceremony of introducing a new peer is naturally more decorative than that which attends the advent of a commoner in the lower chamber. The little procession of three peers in their robes, personally conducted by the king-at-arms, in a costume which looks like a pair of glorified sandwich boards, to various points in the house whence a good view of the lord chancellor may be obtained, the excessive bows, the sitting down and standing up, the putting on and taking off of hats—all this has a certain air of pantomime which it requires a good deal of natural dignity to carry off successfully. Lord Milner, like all his predecessors in a rather trying situation, was able to take a seat comfortably upon the cross bench. The cross benches in the house of lords, by the way, are a kind of no man's land. They are situated below the table and face the woolsack, and were originally intended for the convenience of royal peers who do not care to identify themselves with either party. No royal peer has in the present building ever sat anywhere else. They are also the favorite resting place for military peers. Lord Wolsey and the commander-in-chief always sit there, and so did Lord Kitchener on his rare opportunities of visiting the house since his entrance to it. Curiously enough it is in this position which Earl Wemyss invariably adopts for the delivery of his sixteenth century orations. The Tory benches, perhaps, are not sufficiently Tory for him.

#### Graphite Productions.

Graphite is one of the most useful materials of commerce and the arts. It is universally employed for numerous purposes, yet its real value is only beginning to be understood, and many new uses for it are being found. Manufacturers of graphite products supply various forms of graphite (plumbago or black lead. It is frequently called so), and find a large demand existing. Crucibles, phosphorizers, facings, lubricants, paint, pipe-joint compounds, polishes, erasers and pencils may be briefly mentioned as some of the most commonly-used graphite products.

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