



Expensive Miniatures.
Fashionable New York women are having their portraits painted by one of the most successful miniaturists of England—Lady Maitland, wife of Frederick Colin, Viscount Maitland, who after his father will become the fourteenth Earl of Lauderdale. Lady Maitland, who is the descendant of one of the most ancient families in Wales, takes the same pleasure in her work and its artistic success as if she were a plain little American artist with no future beyond the studio and although she might be feted and made much of by New York society, she is living quietly, devoting herself to her commissions. She asks \$1000 for one of her miniatures and is said to have orders raining on her.

The Woman in White.
Vagaries of taste, the errors of the color blind, are rendered all by the choice of white or black. It was Mr. Gladstone who used to say that a woman, however old, always looked her best in white satin, and, though the grand old man was the last one to be a judge of the chic, he had a great eye for the beautiful and a decided weakness for the fair sex. Ouida also maintains that women should wear white and has always gowned her heroines in white and gray velvets without regard to cast; but then, Ouida is the most extravagant clotheshorse novelist of her day. Court ladies of St. Petersburg are said to buy white satin as other women buy white cotton, by the piece, and rarely appear in any other color or material at the dazzling functions of the czar's court. As a foundation for rare laces and magnificent jewels white satin has the past. It is a fabric with royal associations. —Boston Herald.

Wasteful Savings.
Do not try to save money by doing without your luncheon. Even if only for once, this will injure your health.
Walking home after a day's shopping. You can get more money, but you cannot get a new constitution after yours has been undermined.
Sewing in the twilight. Gas is cheaper than oculists' bills.
Wearing thin clothing. Flannel is cheaper than druggists' prices.
Using cheap soap. It will cost you something in cold creams and suffering to remedy the harm it does.
Going about in thin shoes. Leather is cheaper than quinine and porous plasters; also than a case of pneumonia.

Trying to do the work of the upholsterer and the carpet layers. You have never felt like doing any work again.
Overworking. Nobody will thank you. You will be so cross that the very people for whom you are saving the money will hate you and your husband will wish he had married a spendthrift.

Fall Tones.
Colors which come in hats with the spring season are generally carried over or have great influence on the tones for the fall and winter season, but none of the new gowns made of voile of gauze have been "on the scene," and as to whether or not the shades they employ will be successful there has been no opportunity to judge.

Shades of red have been well to the fore recently, and some of the authorities whose predictions have been true in the past are firm in the belief that the soft tones—gooseberry, Capuchin and scarlet—will enjoy first preference, says the New York Sun.
Saxe blue has been much worn in millinery, but few examples of it have been seen in spring and summer goods and blue—except navy or electric—is not an appropriate shade for the winter. Purple or prune has been done to death in the capital of the French the past year and a half so that tone will be voted a sista. The shades of dahlia were greatly in demand for spring, and will be seen to some extent next fall, but dahlia will not be a leading color. There is no question of green, so the choice lies between red and brown, early spring, and it may influence colors to some extent.

Fashion Hints.
Black velvet ribbon is used with effect on many of the coats.
An expensive fashion which is not likely to be widely imitated is that of the three-quarters lace coat.
Plain silk stockings are not prohibitive in price. Often they can be picked up at quite low prices.
A tailor gown was of a lovely shade of gray cloth, with a tiny line of white annular through it.
The kimono model is increasing popular for evening wraps.
Some of the taffeta wraps are exquisite creations, almost impossible to describe.
This year the favorite gown is the princess dress of sheer white material.



FOR THE HOUSEWIFE
The Servant Problem.
It is sometimes asserted that because a servant girl is a human being there should be pictures, etc., in the kitchen, a nice rug on the floor and a screen before the stove or sink. Any experienced housekeeper knows, however, that this is not practical, and no sensible servant will be bothered with things purely ornamental, always in the way and always collecting dust or grease. A kitchen is merely a workshop. After working hours are over the average servant would rather sit or rest elsewhere, and some place ought to be provided for her. Where there are several servants they can visit in a "servants' dining-room," and they should have the pleasure of making that as cozy as they wish.

The Milk Supply.
A distinguished Danish scientist, in a recent exhaustive discussion of a pure milk supply, insists that the milk supply of a modern city is almost, if not quite, as important a factor as the water supply, and argues that the ratio of deaths among infants has been in direct proportion to the ease or difficulty with which a supply of fresh milk is obtainable. He presents many interesting facts in connection with the abuse of milk. Adulteration of milk is prevented as far as possible, but the fact that so much milk is required, and that it is transported over considerable distances, makes regulation difficult. He also furnishes the interesting information that, from contagious diseases mainly spread by milk, the well-to-do suffer most, since they are the greatest consumers of milk. Consumers who get their milk day by day from rightly conducted dairies are practically proof against contagion. Files are the real carriers of contagion, and from contact with these, milk should always be carefully protected. —Boston Globe.

Scrim Laundry Bag.
No one can know the comfort that is to be found in the laundry bag until she tries one. As soon as a kerchief or a collar is soiled, into the bag it goes, and when wash-day comes there is no skurrying about for the soiled thing.
The best and the cheapest bag is the one that can itself be laundered. Take two lengths of linen scrim, whatever length the bag is to be, and sew them together at the bottom and almost to the top. Wind with white tape two embroidery hoops. Over these hoops hem the upper ends of the bag. Line the scrim with a washable color or with plain white. If ribbon is used for winding the hoops match it to the color of the lining and make four tiny bows to ornament the top.

Recipes.
Oatmeal Cakes—One and one-half cups granulated sugar, two-thirds cup butter, salt, 2 eggs, 7 tablespoonfuls sweet milk, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 cup seeded and chopped raisins, 2 cups oatmeal and white flour to make a stiff dough; drop in small spoonfuls in dripping pan, two inches apart; bake in a hot oven.
Squash—One good squash, stewed and well bruised; 6 large apples stewed tender; mix them well together; add 7 spoonfuls of bread crumbs, 1-2 pint of milk, 2 spoonfuls of rosewater, 6 eggs, 1 grated nutmeg; salt and sugar to taste; beat all together until smooth, and put in a dish lined with puff paste; bake three-quarters of an hour.

Cream Salad Dressing—Yolks of 3 eggs, well beaten; 3 tablespoonfuls of vinegar, 1 teaspoonful of salt, 1 teaspoonful of mustard, 1-2 teaspoonful of pepper, butter size of walnut; pour the vinegar, after scalding, on the well-beaten yolks; have the condiments rubbed smoothly together; stir all the ingredients (except the butter) together; put the mixture over the fire and stir until it thickens, then remove and add butter. Let dressing cool before using. This dressing will keep for days in a cool place. When wanted for use, add 1 pint whipped cream.

Caramel Cake—Beat one-half cup butter to a cream; add gradually 1-2 cups sugar, yolks of 2 eggs, 1 cup water, 2 cups flour, and beat continuously for about five minutes; add 3 teaspoonfuls caramel, 1 teaspoonful vanilla and another 1-2 cup flour; beat again thoroughly and stir in carefully 2 teaspoonfuls baking powder and the well-beaten whites of the eggs; bake in three layers in moderately quick oven. Caramel Syrup for Caramel Cake.—Put 1-2 cup sugar (granulated) in an iron or granite saucepan, and stir continuously over the fire until the sugar first softens, then melts and finally becomes liquid and throws off an intense smoke—it really must burn. Have ready one-half cup of boiling water; remove the saucepan a moment from the fire, throw in the water, stir rapidly and allow to boil until you have molasses, like syrup. Bottle and put away for use.



NEW IDEAS in TOILETTES
New York City. The fitted coat makes the very latest decree of fashion, and will be a pronounced favorite of the autumn. Here is one of the simplest and best that can be made in either three-quarter or half-length and that is adapted to all suitings. It is severe, but in its severity is found smartness, while the simplicity of its cut renders it less difficult to make than are the more elaborate ones. As pointed collar and lapels of a deeper shade of mauve velvet. The sleeves were short puffs of the cloth shirred at the bottom. The lower two-thirds of the sleeve were tight-fitting, and draped in the seams.



A Pretty Coat.
A pretty coat in dark blue rajah silk was made with the waist line high under the arms and dipping slightly in front. The waist had a little vest of velvet, and was outlined on either side of the vest and around the waist with a flat bias band of the silk sewed on by hand.
Negligee Jacket.
Negligees are among the desirable possessions of which no woman ever yet had too many. This one is exceptionally graceful and becoming at the same time that it is essentially comfortable and satisfactory to the wearer while it can be made from a generous variety of materials. In this instance batiste is combined with Valenciennes lace and fancy stitching, but while many women prefer washable negligees to all others for all seasons of the year there are others who find the warmth of light weight wool acceptable in cooler weather, and for these last challis, albatross and the like will be found in every way desirable for the coming season. Trimming is always a matter of taste, handling, lace, embroidery and almost everything that may be preferred being equally correct. The slightly open neck and elbow sleeves are always pretty as well as hygienic, for we long ago learned that beautiful throat and beautiful arms are to be obtained only by perfect freedom, and whatever contributes to that end is much to be desired.

A LATE DESIGN BY MAY MANTON.



The jacket is made with fronts and back that are tucked at their upper edges and joined to the square yoke. The sleeves are generously wide, the fulness being arranged in tucks at their upper edges.
The quantity of material required for the medium size is four yards twenty-seven, three and one-half yards thirty-seven.
The coat is made with fronts, backs, side-backs and under-arm gores and is finished with regulation collar and lapels. The sleeves are in the preferred coat style, with all-over cuffs at the wrists. When liked the coat can be made shorter to half length.
The quantity of material required for the medium size is six yards twenty-seven, three and three-eighths yards forty-four or two and three-quarter yards fifty-two inches wide for three-quarter length; five and three-quarter yards twenty-seven, two and seven-eighths yards forty-four or two and five-eighths yards fifty-two inches for half length.

An Elaborate Gown.
One fashionable gown was a mauve satin cloth, and was meant for ceremonious day wear. It had a shirred skirt with two wide folds simulating tucks, and was untrimmed save for these folds. There was a delightful little Directoire jacket, sharply pointed in front, and fastened with a double row of enameled buttons with gilt edges. The jacket had a yoke or underbody of heavy Irish crochet and white hats numerous.
All white hats are numerous, the exquisite soft felts in white being especially admired. Many blue hats are displayed, peacock and kingfisher blues shading into green veiling with the clear porcelain blues so becoming to brunettes women.

The Draped Waist.
The draped waist is promised. This waist had some vogue last spring, and it was seen in many of the handsome gowns of mid-summer. The drapery on Directoire lines, while the surplice and the fichu are also prominent.
The Veil Important.
The veil plays a most important part in fall millinery. One sees all sorts of handsome veils attached to hats and apparently forming a part of the color scheme.

Paradise Tails.
Paradise tails are again in request, but only those with the largest feathers are chosen, and these are usually curved at their extremities.



ORCHARD and GARDEN
Seeding Down with Corn.
We raise corn, using machinery which makes it easy. We plow, put on dressing with a spreader, harrow it in with a cutaway, put the corn in with a corn planter, go over it with a crusher to make the land smooth, then use the harrow the last time, going over it seeding the land down. The grass is good, and we now have ten acres of corn seeded down.
Our corn is harvested for the silo with a cutter and binder. It keeps well and handles well. A bundle weighs fifteen pounds. Each cow has two bundles a day. It keeps well, and this is the best and the easiest way to handle the crop.—Charles Patterson, in American Cultivator.

A Farmer's Vacation.
After haying is a good time for farmers to take a short vacation. After the labor of getting in the hay crop a little recreation will do them good. There is no better way to enjoy one's self than by driving through the country and noting the condition of growing crops and of farms in general.
Stop and see different dairies and young stock, note the difference in breeds and the various ways of management, compare the results and learn a profitable lesson, thus combining business with pleasure.
Two or three days or even a week spent in this way will not be very expensive and a vast amount of valuable information may be gained, and you will return home invigorated for the continuance of your work, and informed as to the best method of doing it.—E. M. Pike, in Massachusetts Ploughman.

Alfalfa vs. Clover.
Alfalfa is ready for cutting a full month before red clover. There is a strong advantage in dairy farming, since green crops are needed at the earliest possible moment in the spring. After cutting, alfalfa springs into growth more promptly than clover and a second crop is produced within six to eight weeks. Clover lasts two years and alfalfa ten to thirty years. In New Jersey the average yield of green forage an acre was 36,540 pounds for alfalfa and 14,000 pounds for red clover. The weights of dry hay were 8258 pounds and 4,033 pounds, and of protein, 2214 pounds and 616 pounds an acre, respectively. In the same state alfalfa was found to contain 1869 pounds of dry matter and 265 pounds of protein a ton, as compared with 1694 pounds and 246 pounds for clover. In other words, alfalfa not only yields two and one-half times as much as red clover, but its feeding value is much greater pound for pound.—Country Life in America.

"Mutton Chops."
Teach the ram to lead.
Woven wire makes the most reliable sheep fence.
Bright eyes are the best indication of good health.
Ruminating animals should not be dosed with salts.
A few bells will enable the strays to locate the main flock.
One ounce of linseed oil will relieve a case of "stretches."
The sheep that was "shaved" will produce a mighty short staple at next shearing.
In selecting a ram take the bold, "no scare" type—he will help defend the flock.
Quarantine each sheep you buy until you are sure it is free from scab.
Keep the fleeces free from burrs—it pays to care for wool these times.
Don't inbreed. Sheep show the sad effect of close mating at the first cross.
Vinegar applied to the udder will do much to dry off a ewe, in case she has lost her lamb.—Harry H. Wheeler.

Selection for Seed.
The majority of people depend on seedsmen for their garden seeds, rather than take the extra pains and labor necessary for saving them at home. In most respects this is to be recommended. The seeds which are saved for the purpose by men in the work as a business are more likely to be satisfactory than those saved by the average owner of a small garden. The selection, cultivation and curing are all done by experts with the different crops, who can make use of an amount of knowledge not possessed by others.
But one often likes to save some seeds of his own. He has favorites among the plants in his garden and finds pleasure in propagating them. The products of such will yield a satisfaction not otherwise to be obtained. A row of lettuce or a hill of corn can never mean as much to the man who merely plants the seed he has bought as it does to the one who has been acquainted with the ancestors of these plants for generations back.—National Fruit Grower.

Fitting the Collar of Horses.
Sore shoulders on horses are often caused by poorly fitting collars and a lack of proper treatment of the neck and shoulders during and after work hours. Dr. Currier in his Horse Sense gives some good ideas in reference to fitting the collar for horses. He says:

How I Ventilated My Dairy.
Some years ago when I got possession of the farm I found a dairy house built four feet deep and eight feet square with brick floor, which I thought would be a good place for milk.
It was cleaned out nicely and the milk was placed in it, but with all my care the milk would soon be clabber, and was often sour by dinner time, while my farmer's share of the milk would be sweet all day in a safe which was kept under a shady tree, although the thermometer showed the dairy was several degrees cooler.
I concluded the trouble was owing to want of ventilation in the pit to rid it of any acid vapor which must be the cause of the change mentioned, the acid neutralizing the soda or alkali that holds the casein in solution. To get rid of the acid vapor was the question to solve, as there was no ventilation around the milk. Because of the mobile nature of air I knew the slightest variation of temperature would create a circulation. To get this I built alongside of the old dairy a new one, with two four-inch walls about six inches apart giving a space around the building leaving an open outlet into the brick trough connecting the two, built on the floor, the outlet being half a brick space every few inches along the bottom of the trough. A thermometer indicated that the air was two degrees cooler than the air in the trough, which difference kept up the circulation night and day, displacing the air in the trough. During my residence on the farm till about the first of October, we had no trouble with milk turning to clabber, and often missed the cottage cheese for supper, as there was no clabber to make it, even for breakfast, but plenty of sweet milk.

Visiting the farm in November I found the milk all in my kitchen. On speaking to my over-seer's wife about it, she informed me she had to move it, as it was all ice in the morning. I thought it was impossible, as we had no freezing weather. So I had the night's milk put in the dairy with the thermometer at about twenty-eight degrees. To my surprise the milk was all ice in the morning and the secret was out. The cold air circulating around the can soon extracted all the heat and the last milk was the result, while in the kitchen, with the thermometer lower, there was no trouble, the kitchen not being used in the winter, but kept closed. For twenty years we had no trouble from the middle of May until freezing weather.

At the present time we have no trouble winter or summer, as the water from an artesian well, temperature fifty-eight degrees flows through the dairy and in the drain pipe to the bay. My tenant informs me it keeps his milk, melons and cold meat, in good order without ice. The well flows thousands of gallons in the twenty-four hours, discharging the water two feet above the surface. The layer of sand from which the water comes is 350 feet from the surface.—A. P. Sharp, in American Cultivator.

Japanese Tooth Brushes.
The tooth brush of the Japanese, whether at home, in the hotel or in the field, is a piece of wood about the size of a common lead pencil, frayed to a tufty brush of fibre at one end. In hotels a fresh one is furnished every morning free to each guest. This brush has been used all over the south for centuries, usually made of dogwood. The dentifrice of the poor is powdered charcoal or snuff.