



THE SACRED GOOSE.

Figures of Fowl Indispensable at Chinese Wedding.

Flights of wild geese are reported from the Eastern counties in number beyond all precedent, a result of sudden chill lately, and their appetite after the journey is so keen that some of the best grazing marshes are threatened with ruin; nevertheless, we learn many farmers decline to kill birds which they think "almost sacred."

It was J. G. Frazer, of the Golden Bough, who suggested that the reverence felt for various creatures in various parts of the world is a survival of totemism. Plenty of evidence has accumulated since then. Caesar mentions, as schoolboys recollect, that the inhabitants of Britain might not eat the hare, the cock and the goose. In the second case the superstition is quite lost probably, but legendary records keep the memory of it in Ireland. But of the other examples enough can be found even at the present day. There is a "Goose Fair" at Great Crosby, in Lancashire, so called apparently because geese is religiously forbidden. It is even asserted broadly that the inhabitants think the goose "too sacred" to eat—or did not so long ago. The same feeling ruled in the Hebrides and other parts of Scotland.

No one believes at the present day that the Capitol was saved by geese or any other means, but if the story is not true it becomes all the more significant in the folklorist's point of view, as showing that the bird was specially revered in the primitive age of Rome. The Crusaders under Walter the Penitless, 400,000 souls, as we are assured, piously followed a goose and a goat, marching in the van, and a terrible mess these holy animals led them into. In Egypt the goose was the emblem of Seb, father to Osiris; a precious figure of it is extant, inscribed: "The good Goose greatly beloved."

It was the national flag of Burma and of Kandy, Ceylon. Wherever Buddhism rules the goose is venerated. Therefore it is a leading motif in the art of Japan, and a symbol of peace and happiness in China. Figures of geese are as indispensable at a Chinese wedding as is bride cake with us. In both countries, as also in Burma and Siam, weights are made in the shape of a goose as a token of good faith, though the connection is not obvious; but in ancient Egypt the same custom ruled, and Layard found goose weights among his first discoveries at Nineveh. A row of gigantic geese surrounds the great Buddhist temple of Anajapoor. The devout cherish a fond fancy that all geese perform an aerial pilgrimage to the holiest of lakes in the Himalayas every year, transporting the sins of the neighborhood; returning with a new stock of inspiration for the encouragement of local piety.—Fall Mall Gazette.

Andrew Lang's Experiment.

Andrew Lang has tried the experiment of making his mind as blank as possible, and of watching for any words—not thoughts, but words—that floated into his consciousness. "These words," he relates, "I wrote down. The results were very laughable. My own way of writing is not Johnsonian. But the style of my unpremeditated writings was full of long words. The first words, almost, that swam uncalled into my ken, were 'Affability is the characteristic of the dawdling persecutor.' A longer 'message' began thus: 'Observing the downgrade tendency of the symphonetic currents, the primate remarked that he could no longer regard Kafozelum as an aid to hortatory eloquence.'

A Railway Mosque.

On the Hedjaz railway in Arabia there is to be operated a carriage fitted up as a mosque, where pilgrims will be able to perform their devotions during the journey to the sacred cities. Externally the praying carriage is only distinguishable from the other carriages by a minaret six feet high. The interior is luxuriously fitted. The floor is covered with the richest of Persian carpets, while around the sides are verses from the Koran appropriate to the pilgrimage and in letters of gold. A chart indicates the direction of Mecca at one end, and at the other are placed four vessels for holding water for the ritual ablutions.

To Sacred to See.

"The German Kaiser has been getting rough usage at the Reichstag's hands since his Morning Telegraph interview, hasn't he?" said Mark Twain at a recent dinner. "Those German royalties deem themselves so sacred, too. Listen: "I was once traveling on the Continent. A gorgeous fop showed me through the royal palace of a tiny principality. I asked if I could have a glimpse of the ruler himself, and the lackey led me to a wall. "Place your ear to this wall," he said solemnly, "and in about half an hour you will hear his royal highness bowling."—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

The Children.

Two small girls were talking about their dreams for the future. "When I grow up," said Mary, "I'm going to be a school teacher." "Well, I'm going to be a mother with four children," said Stella. "Well, when they come to my school, I'm going to whip them, whip them, whip them!" "You mean that," said Stella, as the tears came into her eyes, "what have my poor children ever done to you?"—Delineator.

Clocks Are Fast.

Whether there is some occult reason for it or not is uncertain, but it is a fact that nearly all of the clocks in the hotels of New York City are fast. The average of fastness in twelve hotels within a half mile of Herald Square, as observed, was four and one-half minutes.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

New York City.—The fancy waist with long draped sleeves that are still close fitting in effect is one that is



greatly in demand and suits a variety of occasions. This model can be utilized both for the gown and for the odd blouse and is susceptible of treat-

ed lines and arranged over the whole. The sleeves, too, are made over plain foundations, and these foundations are faced with the trimming material, while the sleeves themselves are slashed and shirred to from the openings.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is three and three-eighths yards twenty-one, two and a half yards twenty-seven or one and seven-eighths yards forty-four inches wide, with one and three-eighths yards of all-over lace, three-eighths yards of tucking.

Plain and Tucked One-Piece Sleeves.

Long sleeves are rapidly becoming more and more general, and new models are in demand, both for the making of new bodices and for the remodeling of those that are partly worn. Here are two that can be made available in both ways, and which are adapted to almost the entire range of materials.

Each sleeve is cut in one piece. The plain sleeve can be utilized for all-over lace, tucked net or any fancy material, while the tucked one is designed for plain material, as the tucks are laid on indicated lines and are arranged to give the most becoming possible effect.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is for the plain sleeves one and a half yards of material eighteen, twenty-one or twenty-four inches wide, three-quarter yards thirty-two or forty-four; for the

To Enjoy

the full confidence of the Well-Informed of the World and the Commendation of the most eminent physicians it was essential that the component parts of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna should be known to and approved by them; therefore, the California Fig Syrup Co. publishes a full statement with every package. The perfect purity and uniformity of product, which they demand in a laxative remedy of an ethical character, are assured by the Company's original method of manufacture known to the Company only.

The figs of California are used in the production of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna to promote the pleasant taste, but the medicinal principles are obtained from plants known to act most beneficially.

To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

Peculiar Spanish Custom.

It is customary in Spain when an infant first begins to notice things to place before it a silver coin, a sword, a silver cross, a book and some fruit. The object to which the child stretches his hand indicates, according to accepted belief, his future vocation. The coin is for commerce, the sword for the army, the cross and the book respectively point to the Church and the law or learning, while the fruit denotes a farmer or landowner.

Lame Back Prescription.

Considerable discussion is being caused among the medical fraternity by the increased use of whiskey for lame back and rheumatism. It is an almost infallible cure when mixed with certain other ingredients and taken properly. The following is the formula:

"To one ounce of Toris compound and one ounce syrup Sarsaparilla compound add one-half pint of good whiskey. Take in tablespoonful doses before each meal and before retiring."

It is surely worth trying by any one who may be afflicted.

Still Bigger Hats.

We are greatly surprised to learn from credible inner source that the feminine big hat is to remain in vogue. Not only is it to remain, but the understanding appears to be that it will show a still greater circumference—to say nothing of an extended diameter. Of course, the masculine mind can't understand this. He has seen the big hat lampooned, satirized, mocked, and even reviled. He has seen it caught in doorways, and banged against partitions, and bent in collisions. How it can survive both the shafts of sarcasm and the ruder materialistic bumps is something no fellow can find out—including a lot of fellows much wiser than Dandrea.

But, of course, there is no use piling forth any further objections. The hat of lovely woman is as sacred a form of headgear as the hat of the Austrian Gessler. And both, more or less, are the emblems of tyranny—the tyranny of power and the tyranny of fashion.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

New Monroe Doctrine Needed.

The president and retiring secretary of state recommended that congress authorize the appointment of a commission to visit Liberia to study the difficulties in which that weakling state finds itself. A commission of Liberians recently visited this country—may be here yet—to ask that this government assume a sort of unofficial protectorate over the African republic, in order to guarantee her territorial integrity and keep the neighboring dependencies of European nations from aggression that threatens her existence. The United States, having encouraged the establishment of Liberia, would seem to have some responsibility to help her in the present crisis.

NO MEDICINE

But a Change of Food Gave Relief.

Many persons are learning that drugs are not the thing to rebuild worn out nerves, but proper food is required.

There is a certain element in the cereals, wheat, barley, etc., which is grown there by nature for food to brain and nerve tissue. This is the phosphate of potash, of which Grape-Nuts food contains a large proportion. In making this food all the food elements in the two cereals, wheat and barley, are retained. That is why so many heretofore nervous and run down people find in Grape-Nuts a true nerve and brain food.

"I can say that Grape-Nuts food has done much for me as a nerve renewer," writes a Wis. bride.

"A few years ago, before my marriage, I was a bookkeeper in a large firm. I became so nervous toward the end of each week that it seemed I must give up my position, which I could not afford to do.

"Mother purchased some Grape-Nuts, and we found it not only delicious, but I noticed from day to day that I was improving until I finally realized I was not nervous any more. "I have recommended it to friends as a brain and nerve food, never having found its equal. I owe much to Grape-Nuts, as it saved me from a nervous collapse, and enabled me to retain my position."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.



ment of various sorts. In the illustration it is made of satin with the under portions of the sleeves and the blouse of all-over lace and the yoke, or chemise, of tucked net. It is distinctly novel in design, however, and the under portions, which in this case are of all-over lace, can be utilized for contrasting material of any sort or for the material of the blouse, braided or embroidered, or treated in any similar manner. If a very handsome gown were wanted these under portions would be extremely handsome made from mandarin embroidery while for a simple gown the material itself with a design of sou-tache would be effective and in every way satisfactory.

The blouse is made with a fitted lining and this lining is faced to form the yoke. Over it is arranged the under portions of the blouse, while the blouse proper is laid in pleats over the shoulders and cut out on indicated lines and arranged over the whole. The sleeves, too, are made over plain foundations, and these foundations are faced with the trimming material, while the sleeves themselves are slashed and shirred to from the openings.

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Vivid Linings For Coats.

The new black satin coats, which are made on Directoirelines and worn with black skirt or over colored frocks, are lined with brilliant colors. A lining of plain black or white, or black and white, is commonplace. One has wistaria, Cafawba, vivid geranium, American Beauty and the new pink as choices for linings. There is no repetition of this color on the collar and cuffs, but the lining has a way of showing. Some fastidious women repeat the color of their hats.

tucked sleeves two and three-quarter yards twenty-one or twenty-four, one and a half yards thirty-two or forty-four inches wide.



Fancy Broadcloths.

Chiffon broadcloth appears in all the new colorings and of a lightness and softness even surpassing that achieved by the manufacturers last season. Fancy broadcloths in one tone colorings and woven satin or chevron stripes are numerous.

Transforms a Blouse.

If the bodice extends out even but slightly over the arm's-eye, a relief is obtained which transforms an ugly blouse into one that is becoming.