



WOMAN'S REALM

WORK FOR THE NIMBLE FINGERS.

Attractive Employment For the Girl Who Likes to Sew.

The girl who has been trained to fine needlework may thank her lucky stars that she is the happy possessor of this talent, for there never was a season when there was more use for this training than there is at present.

There is nothing that adds more to a girl's feeling of self-respect than to know that she is daintily clad and that her lingerie is above reproach.

Home-made garments wear twice as long as those that are bought ready made, and a tresseau may be provided for a much less sum if the bride-elect will make her own lingerie.

Flannel skirts are now serged and finished at the foot with a ruffle, which may be embroidered in silk or simply finished with a row of braid stitching at the top of the hem.

For the girl who is making ready for her marriage there is no work more attractive than this, and in the future she will appreciate the beauty of the work that she has accomplished.

French knots are much used, and garments of all kinds are so trimmed with hand work that one can but wonder if the sewing machine is to be one of the relics of the past before the next generation grows to womanhood.

For the girl who is an expert needlewoman there is always an opening, and especially at this season, when a machine-made garment is looked upon almost with disdain.

Fancy may run riot in the matter of nightgowns. These garments at the moment are perfectly lovely.

For real simplicity white silk or muslin nightgowns are trimmed with turnover collars, finished with beadings and fine silk hemstitching, tying in a large bow in the front and showing some wonderful hand tucking.

German Women Not Crying Enthusiasts. In a land where wives and maidens are neater one would not expect advanced views on "feminism."

A Corador turban has a crown of violets, and a high brim covered with violet tulle, over which gold lace is draped.

"Veiled" roses are among the softest effects in millinery. The blossoms are of the "crushed" variety, and over each colored petal rests another petal of mousseline de sole in white or a lighter shade of the color of the rose.

The Swiss regard football as an enemy to the national amusement. Young women who bicycle do not practice the piano as they should; they give up one sort of pedal for another, as an old music master in the suburbs complained some years ago.

Parasol Fretfulness. China or pompadour silk parasols are among the smartest of the season.

This tucked taffeta idea is one of the most used of the season. Very modish parasols have a centre of tucked taffeta, and around it a border of chiffon or similar diaphanous stuff.

Grass-cloth parasols promise to be among the most popular of the season. An idea just introduced this season is to have pleats running down each section of white to match the wide white border and the material of the centre of the parasol.

Bordered creations seem to reign supreme in parasol land this year. Silver Again. Silver is the dominant note in many new gowns and promises to become as ubiquitous as the off-repeated gold of last year.

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A cubic foot of cork weighs fifteen pounds, a cubic foot of gold weighs 1155 pounds.

POPULAR SCIENCE

A SPRUCE GUM FAMINE.

There is a prospect of a spruce gum famine in New England this year. The druggists and candy dealers in the manufacturing cities of Massachusetts and Connecticut are sending in orders faster than the lumbermen can fill them.

The price of clear, amber-tinted spruce nuggets, such as the factory girls delight in chewing, has gone up from seventy-five cents to \$1.50 a pound inside of six months.

A scarcity of genuine black spruce trees in the Maine woods is the cause of the famine. Prior to the time when the large pulp mills were built there was no trouble in securing the gum.

The pulp industry spoiled all these preserves by cutting off the best trees to be converted into sulphite pulp for paper, and the gum pickers were forced to seek other sources.

While the harvesters can build up new orchards in a few years, if left to themselves, the trouble comes in when the owners of the pulp mills invade the new stock.

The harvest of gum in Maine is about six tons in a season, which, taking one year with another, sells for sixty cents a pound.

Recent observations on the gases of the blood during a balloon ascension show: First, that the faculty of fixing oxygen possessed by the haemoglobin of the blood is not diminished as the atmospheric pressure diminishes but, on the contrary, increased at least at the altitudes attained.

Men sometimes dream of enormous wealth stored deep in the earth, below the reach of miners.

The Papaya Tree of the East. The papaya tree flourishes all over tropical India, from Delhi to Ceylon.

It is a curious fact that while Paris has been glorifying Victor Hugo this week, a character closely resembling his Jean Valjean has appeared before the Paris courts.

The modern Valjean's name is Livingstone. After a heroic career of living down an early conviction, he was condemned to twenty years' imprisonment in default, for theft.

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When the case came up for trial he told his life story and swore that he was innocent. A clever lawyer emphasized the resemblance to Hugo's hero and the court acquitted him.

SHAKESPEARE.

Marred, murdered, misquoted, Adapted, mistook, And volubly roared.

Sold, sold and resold, Bound, bound, bound again, With edges and tops of gold;

Rhymed, sonneted, oded In immature verse, With every license;

Trimmed, twisted, translated To suit every tongue; Pruned, cut, expurgated

"What kind of a preacher is he?" "Wonderful, sir. He has all the modern improvements."

"You can believe only half what a girl says." "No!—Sure, but which half?"

"Thompson says he regards his mother-in-law as a perfect treasure." "To be sure he does—the kind he'd be satisfied to lay up in heaven."

Ethel's mother said the grocer to send her a dressed turkey, and when it arrived the little miss said: "Mamma, the turkey isn't dressed at all; it's perfectly nude."

"John," she whispered, "there's a burglar in the parlor. He just bumped against the piano and struck several keys."

"Then why did you say it was one or two?" "To please your highness."

"Plenty, your highness," and so on through the list. They were told there was plenty of everything.

"Where are the eggs?" "There are no eggs, may it please your highness."

Electing Man Who Called Them Liars. When John Stewart Mill ran for Parliament in Westminster he was asked at one of the meetings, chiefly composed of the working classes,

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SITTING ON HATS.

Always Discomforting and Sometimes Exceedingly Embarrassing.

"There's one thing in particular that all young men ought to be cautioned against," said the philosopher as he puffed away at his dying cigar.

"My next misfortune happened in a railroad office," continued the victim. "I had called to see the president about a patent brake."

"I might have been a success in politics but for a hat. I had been called to act as secretary to a State Committee, and my first move was to sit down on the chairman's hat."

"I was once sent to New York to interview a capitalist on mining matters. He was ready to go in with three or four of us to develop a mine, and had just become interested in my talk and the maps, which I fell back into a chair, and of course it was the one holding his hat."

"If you've got a boy growing up and want to make anything of him, talk to him—warn him—make it his motto and watchword to spare his hats. You may rip a man's coat up the back, trip him up on the stairs, borrow his knife or lug off his overcoat, and he'll forgive you, but if you ever sit down on his hat you might as well retire to a back country at once."

"I would not be generally known," said a travelling man to me the other day. "That the conductors on all Florida railroads which cross the Suwannee River are instructed to call out the name of the stream as the train is crossing."

It is certainly not a tribute to the beauty or importance of the river itself, for it is about as commonplace a stream as you could see anywhere.

It would be difficult to say what would be the price of a best seat from which to view the coronation procession of Edward VII.

After the recent earthquake that shook the Santa Ynez Valley, a line of demarcation, the shape of a long elliptical curve having the appearance of a newly plowed furrow, was noticed along the grain field above one corner of the low bluffs from corner to corner of the field.

Tablet to Peter the Great. Peter the Great, when he lived in London studying shipbuilding, occupied a large brick building which is still standing at the foot of Buckingham street, overlooking the old York water gate.

Now, however, the Russian Agricultural Society, a deputation from which recently visited the market, have requested permission to restore this tablet. The Cattle Market Committee has cordially acceded to the request, recognizing the patriotic intentions of the Russian agriculturists.

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