Mme. Carnot, wife of the President of France, acts as secretary to her husband, has the care of his private correspondence always, and, when he is over-pressed with business or is desirous of taking some little repose, as well as during his absence, she takes his place and transacts all current affairs with a care and perfect knowledge of business routine which she owes to her early training; for in her girlhood Mile. Dupont White was the constant companion and also the amanuensis of her father, and had early to learn to sacrifice her own tastes and anusements that she might be the right hand of the able political economist.—[New York World.

PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE SEX.

PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE SEX.
Several English medical journals have recently called attention to a fact, sustained by common observation, that the young women of the present day are better developed physically, taller, plumper, stronger and healthier than the young women of 50, 100, 150 or 200 years ago, and that in this continuous and perceptible improvement of condition and aspect there are no steps backward. One journal has called attention to the circumstance that whereas a century ago a handsome woman inspired sentiments of such an admiring curiosity that her arrival or departure drew vast crowds and rewarded the patient waiting of hundreds; beauty of the same sort is so general nowadays as to evoke no ripple of excitement.—[Chicago Post.

THE NEW BODICES.

The new bodices are all made over a fitted lining. The only places where the material of the bodice is united to the lining and on the inside of the waist are at the two seams under the arm and at the shoulder seams. The new linings are noteworthy for the slender effect that they give to the corsage. The darts are brought as far forward as possible, leaving only about an inch between the first two darts, while the second darts are set but a short distance further back. The old-fashioned dart is an unknown thing on the outside of corsages, unless it is on plain tailor drosses. The fulness necessary for the figure is drawn up in the centre of the back and in the centre of the front of bodices in a cluster of tiny petals as described, or is held in and concealed under a vest of embroidery and velvet in front and a long slender point of the same at the back. All the new waist forms are fully boned in every seam.—[New York Tribune.

The ladies of Elberfeld, Germany, have adopted a practical system for teaching factory girls how to become good wives. It is well known that factory girls are singularly remiss in everything pertaining to good housewifery, and that when they marry they know no more about getting up a good dinner than they do about sailing a yacht. The plan of the Elberfeld women is to take these girls into their homes for a year of service previous to their marriage. So now in Elberfeld the plan of teaching factory girls how to live is something like this; As seon as a factory girl becomes engaged to be married she gives up her position and takes employment with some woman who pledges herself to teach the girl all she knows about cooking, baking, sweeping and all other housewifely arts. At the end of the year the girl is qualified to keep house properly and economically. And if, by a mischance, there should be a slip between the matrimonial cup and the lip, the young woman has learned so much that she can go right on in domestic service, earning good wages, if she so desires.—

[St. Louis Republic.

I was told, writes a Paris correspondent, that boas a la 1830—that is to say, the long ones—would be abandoned this season, but from the amount and variety of its species noticeable, not only in every window, but more especially around every mondaine's neck, I very naturally come to the conclusion that my informant's tip was of a very uncertain kind.

With regard to these comforters I may also add that fur, ostrich and cock's feather boas are the most fashonable at the present moment, while long flat stole-like collarettes of sable fall to the fect, and are finished off by the dark tails of that expensive little animal. These flat boas, I fancy, used to be termed in bygone days Victorines. The ostrich feather boas are now built of a series of tips overcurling, and not of one unbroken line of plume as heretoforo.

The latest novelty, however, and which I told you of several weeks ago, is the green bronze bear of roosters' feathers, forming a very thick ruching of ourled feathers; others are made of porfectly flat and uncurled "plumes," and although pretty, are not so light in appearance as the frisees.—[Lady's Pictorial.

"It's an old trick of the trade with the novelists to tell how young women, when in love, never fail at a certain juncture to double-lock their room doors, and with many flushes and heart-beatings write down their Christian name coupled with the surname of the man whom they have promised or hope to marry," commented a young married woman lately wedded to a fine man of her oboice.

"I suppose it is the way of many sentimental girls, though I never did it mysolf; instead, I underwent a very different emotion, of which I don't think men have any comprehension, but which I find is not peculiar in my case. I mean grief of having to give up one's maiden name.

"All the time I was engaged I never

my loss, he grew sympathetic, and, do you know, for a long time he called me by my maiden name. That wore off with the honeymoon, however, but even to this day 1 think sadly of my lost name."—[Illustrated American.

INDUSTRIES FOR WOMEN.

It is very grievous to notice how great and various are the difficulties in the way of making new employments successful. The first and really important difficulty of men objecting to admit women to new spheres of work, is almost entirely overcome, but there is more fear of women injuring their cause by their own petty hecklings and wranglings than there ever fear from the opposition of men. Here, for instance, are the lady market-gardeners. A more excellent scheme than that which Miss Grace Harriman started a little more than a year ago was never devised for giving gentlewomen who had not the abilities or the chance of making a living by what is called brain-work a chance of congenial work and fair remuneration. But no sconer had the practical work begun than the lady gardeners became a house divided against itself. Some of the novices had to be dismissed because they would not help to sell things when they were ready for the market; there were faultfindings and backbitings concerning minor matters, and the result of it all was not only much annoyance to all concerned, but also inevitable pecuniary losses. When will women learn that it is absolutely no good to enter upon any serious work so long as they cannot be contented to sink their fads, fancies and prejudices, and look at their work from a broader point of view?

Why in the world are not a few more enterprising women, with a small capital at their disposal, coming forward as poultry farmers? There are one or two already "in the trade," and doing exceedingly well, and there are hundreds and thousands of women who "make a little money" by selling eggs and poultry in an amateurish way. But while we have such facts before us as the following, which comes from a reliable source, it is not amateurs, but practical professionals that are required. During the last eight months no less than 114,865,860 eggs were exported from Russia into England. They represented a value of \$1,125,000. The conditions under which poultry farming many be successfully carried on are

Short white face vails are of figured or

Jeweled portieres are at their best and nost effective under the gaslight.

Some of the dyed fur rugs are found very disagreeable in a warm house. Yokes of fur are now applied to cloaks of cloth, or to any of the woolen cloak-

It is truer now than ever before in the history of fashion that "fine feathers do not make fine birds."

not make fine birds."

Scarlet waistcoats, embroidered with fine gold braid, are in high favor among the women of fashion.

Women who wear diamond rings outside their gloves are, contrary to hope, not all dead yet by any means.

Purple, heliotrope, sapphire, corn-flower, apple green, and pinkish browns are fashionable colors for costumes. New effects in portrait photography are nothing if not startling. The head looks to be in a cloud of "cotton smoke."

Some of the new skirts are made with pocket slits on both sides of the front, and are trimmed with passmenterie, gimp, or velvet.

Faille Francais, bengaline, gross-grain, ttoman, peau-de-soir, and serge-de-yon silks will all continue fashionable hrough the winter.

The novelty in bodices just now is a perfectly smooth, tight-fitting waist of velvet or satin, without trimming of any kind, and long sleeves made entirely of feathers.

The muffler for full dress is of some solid, deep color, and is in the form of an enlarged handkerchief, to be folded to a width from four to five inches, placed about the neck under the swallow tail collar and folded across the waistcoat opening.

The new French skirt, or umbrella skirt, as some call it, on account of its shape, is the very latest skirt for wakeling costumes and house wear. It molds the figure below the waist and around by means of a few darts, the entire fullness being adjusted at the back. The seams on the bodices and skirts

The scams on the bodices and skirts of silk or velvet evening gowns are being overlaid with a narrow silk gimp or passementerie. Silver or gold seems to be used for preference, although many women think the use of metallic trimmings makes a gown look tawdry. If the trimming be good and not tinselly, however, it brightens a gown amazingly, if not too freely employed.

Punishing Naval Cadets.

mented a young married woman lately wedded to a fine man of her choice.

"I suppose it is the way of many sentemental girls, though I never did it myself; instead, I underwent a very different emotion, of which I don't think menhave any comprehension, but which I find is not peculiar in my case. I mean grief of having to give up one's maiden name.

"All the time I was engaged I never took any thought for the day on which I was to drop my own nice surname and title, for which I had such a deep affection, and be addressed by my family, my friends and people to whom I was introduced by an entirely different one.

"For the first week after my marriage even, I scarcely noticed the change, but one day there suddenly came over me a curious little lonesome feeling. It seemed so chilly and formal, so unlike myself to be addressed as 'Mrs.' at every hand, and never to hear my own dear origina name.

"The more I thought over the matter the more despairing I became. Never, never could I hear the old familiar 'Miss' when anybody spoke to me.

"Thereupon I actually locked myself in my room and wept so long and bitterly from pure namesickness that my husband besought me tearfully through the key-hole to tell him what was wrong.

"He was very much hurt when I first explained the cause of my grief, but when I brought him to a realization of

QUEER ROADS IN CHINA.

Curiosities of Travel and Postal Service in the Flowery Land.

Minister Denby has just sent to the Department of State a very interesting description of roads in China. Outside of the cities they are of the most primitive nature, being merely lines of ruts across the fields. In summer they are fathomless, impassable bogs, and travel, except on foot, is practically suspended. The pig-tailed orientals have never taken much trouble with road-making, partly because throughout their country the plains are a network of waterways, natural and artificial, while human labor for carrying burdens has always been preferred to that of beasts over the narrow and circuitous mountain passes. Roads for military purposes seem never to have been thought of by the Chiness. The great campaigns of the Mongol and Manchu emperors were conducted with hordes of flying cavalry along no fixed routes.

China has telegraph lines now, but previous to their introduction intelligence was conveyed to the center of government from outside provinces by an elaborate system of post stations. These were placed about thirty miles apart, and relays of horses were constantly kept in readiness for the imperial couriers. By such means dispatches were sent to dissure the such as a conveyed to the center of government from outside provinces by an elaborate system of post stations. These were placed about thirty miles apart, and relays of horses were constantly kept in readiness for the imperial couriers. By such means dispatches were sent to dis-

Cliais has testograph lines not help and the previous to that introduction melligeness when the production provinces he and the stations. These reactions of posters of posters and the stations of the province of the state of the province of the provin

Tee Siberian Railroad.

A report has just been submitted by Colonel Nicolai Voloshinoff, of the Russian army, discussing in detail the possible routes for the projected trans-Siberian railway, and giving extremely valuable data respecting the navigability of the various Siberian rivers. Three are singled out as most feasible. The first is an all-rail route, 4,994 miles long, from Slatust to Vladivostok, estimated to cost 341,000,000 roubles, equivalent to about \$170,000,000. A second route is from Tomsk to Stretenzk, utilizing sixty miles of navigable water across Lake Baikal, thus saving nearly 200 miles of railroad. From Stretensk the line would continue to Vladivostok, making a total of 1,972 miles of track, costing 122,000,000 roubles or \$16,000,000. The third line would coincide with the second, except that it involves the construction of the road around the southern end of Lake Baikal, and in addition an extension down the Amur to Jernayeva, 480 miles, and from the Amur to Vladivostok, making 2,900 miles, estimated at 218,000,000 roubles, or \$109,000,000. The two latter routes would be open on an average during six months of the year, while the first, being in-

on. The two latter routes would be open on an average during six months of the year, while the first, being independent of navigation would be uvailable at all seasons. The estimated time for passengers by this line from Vladivostok to Moscow is fitteen days. The importance of an early construction of this road, in spite of its enormous cost, is urged with great emphasis in Col. Voloshin-off's report. The losses which Russia would sustain in the event of war without such a communication with the Pacific would unquestionably so far exceed this first cost as to render it insignificant in comparison. It is fortunate that the military needs of the empire will in this case coincide with those of commerce, and the the empire will in this case coincide with those of commerce, and the trans-Siberian road will do infinitely more than the Suez Canal toward developing Asia as a whole, and bring Asiatic commercial life into touch with that of European centres in the west. — Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine.

Here Is a Question!

Magazine.

Here is a Question!

The fact that so many of us, like Mr. Wegt, decline and fall pretty steadily through life, tells for pessimism, but it is still overbalanced by the optimistic sign given us in the spiritual height from which some of us start; and this sign is none the less impressive for being so mysterious. I do not allow myself to be cast down because these angel faces are often borne by babies who need spanking much oftener than they are likely to get it, for there is a great deal in the richest ore besides gold; but, I admit, it is sadly depressing to see so many children who give little sign of a birthright of grace. How can any one declare he adores them in the lump, after the rentimental manner when the very infant in arms so often shows a sodi-sickening, self-evident likeness to an aggressive, stupid father, or a sharp, vulgar little fool of a mother? Still I believe the case is not then so bad as it looks to the casual but sensitive observer. A wise woman tells me that it is not the sheer fatuity of folly that enchants people with the most unprepossessing young one when it happens to be their own, but that truly it is only its own family who can ever really know a baby's charms, and it is her belief that if we could have all the evidence before us in even the most unaccountable case, we should see that the worshipers were wiser than the scoffling world.

We all know that the tiresomest brat can present wonderfully appealing aspects—say when only the little back is seen, and its sleepy wee head has fallen trustfully on a grown-up shoulder. Science may account for the pull the sight makes on your heart-strings, but in some way, after you have duly informed yourself as to the evolution of the emotions, it is still apt in experience, like childhood's own gaze, to carry tidings to your deeper, perhaps all but unconscious,

the evolution of the emotions, it is still apt in experience, like childhood's own gaze, to carry tidings to your deeper, perhaps all but unconscious, self of precious undiscovered posses-sions and kinships in the universal sources.—Viola Roseboro' on "Child-hood," in Century.

Flying Spirits.

New Year's day at the capital city of Thibet, Lh'asa, there begins a season of festivity. One of the enter-tainments is called the "Spectacle of Flying Spirits." The performers stretch an enormously large rope made of hide all the way from the top to the bottom of Mount Potala; then they fasten grooved blocks of wood to their chests and sail down the line like so many swallows.

Chronic Rheumatism

And serious disorder of the liver and stomach, ha troubled me for more than ten years, during whit time I have used almost every medicine recomme ed, without finding any relief whatever, until I tric

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A male swan is a cob, a female one a hen. The term "cygnet" is applica-ble to the bird during the first year of its life only. a "gray bird" being the proper term for it until the maturity of a white swan is attained.

Boston policemen now carry their clubs in their pockets.

The locust plague in Algeria is playing havoc with the crops.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. isaac Thomp-son's Eye-water.Druggists sell at 25c.per bottle The Japanese language contains 60,000

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A delegation of French firemen visited ondon to study the system of the English

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The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease are the three is at least one dreaded disease as the sease of the s

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great distress from constant coughing, and inability to raise any of the accumulated matter from my lungs, that my time was close at hand. When nearly worn out for want of sleep and rest, a friend recommended me to try thy valuable medicine,

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