

Talks About Womankind

Hale and Hearty at One Hundred.
In a brown silk dress, made for her half a century ago, Miss Mahala Terry, a true daughter of the Revolution, received callers on her 100th birthday at her home in Simsbury, Conn. In the afternoon she posed before cameras for friends. Miss Terry was born in the house where she lives. With the exception of being deaf and lame, the centenarian retains her faculties well.

Cotton vs. Taffeta.
Despite the fact that very many of the foulard frocks come supplied with white cambric slip skirts, the woman who can afford it prefers white taffeta. In the matter of laundry bills alone the extra cost of the taffeta may be saved, since taffeta sheds soil that simply sinks right into the loosely woven cottons. Its crispness, too, and its ability to hold its own in damp wind that leave cotton skirts limp, is another feature; is, indeed, an item in its favor. Of course, with some dresses an exquisite thing is sheerest white and quantities of daintiest lace is to be preferred, but never, mind you, on the score of cheapness.

The "Gas Lady."
The "gas lady" is the newest feminine invader of the industrial world. She is sent out by a gas company which desires to "boom" the use of gas for cooking purposes. Some women are afraid to touch a gas stove. Some do not understand how to manage it, and fall to get the best results out of it. With some, on the other hand, it is just a plain, ordinary ignorance of how to cook. The "gas lady" has a handful of nice, simple recipes. She explains all the wrinkles of the range; shows how to regulate the heat, how to manage the oven, how to turn all the different dampers and screws, and all the time she is giving little cooking lessons as she goes along. The "gas lady" finds plenty of "human interest" as she makes her way through the tenement houses, all the way from the woman who resents all inquiry into her cooking arrangements and shuts the door in the "gas lady's" face, to the dependent little bride, who tearfully admits that she can't make "the old thing cook a bit," and welcomes the visitor as a guest from heaven.—New York Tribune.

Sashes Worn With Gowns.
A new idea in sashes is a corsage bow to match. This artistic design is quite a change from the bow with two long ends that formerly did duty as a sash. The foundation is white moire antique, and the roses and ends which decorate it are of liberty satin taffeta. To further aid the floral effect artificial daisies are added. These sashes are made up in all colors. With the rosette in place of the rose any favored flower may take the daisy's place.

The corsage bow is of soft liberty satin taffeta matching the decorations of the sash. Its chief beauty lies in the artistic way in which it is made up. These two ribbon creations would redeem an otherwise plain gown and add much to one already beautiful. They are a boon to the home dress-maker, who lacks both time and skill to make them herself. The girl graduate does not consider her costume complete without them, and, in fact, this season they figure on almost all gowns of the lighter weight materials. A prettier fancy has not obtained in many years.—New York Journal.

Woman's Position in Germany.
In Germany the economic, intellectual, and, in a certain degree, also the legal condition of woman is lately beginning to take shape in accordance with the principles of the women's movement.

The pressure of facts is gradually convincing the public mind that the traditional ideal German woman, so ardently defended, is undergoing a slow process of transformation. Willingly or unwillingly it is admitted that economic and social conditions force a continually increasing number of German women to earn their own living. The hope of turning the wheel of history backward is more and more disappearing, and while narrow-mindedness ridicules as preposterous the efforts of well-to-do classes of women, and their purely ideal motives, even in tenacious conservative circles, it is recognized that women in their battle for existence can no longer be denied their only weapon—a thorough, universal and professional education.

There is also an increasing willingness to open to women professions hitherto closed to them by law or custom. The overcrowded state of the traditional professions for women clearly demands this. Nevertheless, this willingness relates only to those employments which are considered a priori, suitable to so-called woman's "sphere." Therefore, all professions which give their holder a position of any social power remain for the present and will remain in the immediate future the carefully guarded prerogative of men. All positions with an official Government salary attached, administration, the police department, etc., are by custom reserved for men, nor can women be lawyers, clergymen or teachers in universities, and the opposition to the demand for equal training for boys and girls has its strongest root in the dread that, after attaining an equal standard in education women's profane hands might be stretched out even toward those employments.

The first breach, however, has been made. Since a year and a half ago women may take the State examinations in medicine and pharmacy at German universities. The long-projected

appointment of women as assistant factory inspectors in Prussia, Baden, Wurtemberg, Bavaria, Hesse, Saxony and some of the Thuringian States, as well as their appointment as poor-law guardians and guardians of orphans in many German cities, may count as a first step to future official employments. The appointment of women as subaltern officials and clerks in the post, telegraph, railway and other State offices has gone on less slowly, yet the advance of women in these positions is not in every respect satisfactory, as being in the first place due to the inferior wages of women's labor. The number of women teachers appointed in public schools and girls' secondary schools is increasing, but the management, as well as the teaching in the upper classes, are still chiefly in the hands of male teachers. Through the new institution for the training and examination of head mistresses the removal of this unnatural state of affairs has begun.—Women's Journal.

Lady Warwick has a peacock which is said to be 100 years old.
M. Paquin, Parisian dressmaker, declares that Americans make the fashions.
Queen Wilhelmina leads a quiet and uneventful life. She does not care for ceremony.
Miss Etta H. Maddox has been admitted to the bar in Baltimore, being the first woman in Maryland to practice law.
Vassilissa Ivanovna, an old peasant woman, now living at St. Petersburg, is 117 years old. She was a married woman when Napoleon invaded Russia.

Mrs. Annie Alexander Hector, the novelist, who wrote over the nom de plume of "Mrs. Alexander," has died suddenly in London, aged seventy-seven years.
Miss Jane E. Clark, a young woman of Newark, N. J., has been appointed woman principal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, and will assume her duties as such in the autumn.
Clara Barton, head of the Red Cross Society, has been invited by President Diaz of Mexico, to come to the City of Mexico and there organize a branch of the society for the Republic.
A memorial window in memory of Mrs. Georgiana M. Sizer has been presented to a Brooklyn Baptist Church by Chinamen, for her beneficial work among the members of their race.

The recent German Congress of Internal Medicine had two women as members, for the first time. The Chairman of the section of surgery at the recent Russian Medical "Pirogov" Congress was a woman, Dr. A. G. Archangelskaia.
The champion girl baseball thrower of Elmira College is Miss Bertha Burgess, who has established a record for college girl athletics. She has accomplished the feat of throwing a baseball 161 feet, and she declares that she will not be satisfied until she has raised the figures to 200 feet.

The wife and daughter of Captain Millburn, of the steamer Heathdene, undertook successfully the duties of navigation while the captain and officers were fighting the fire which had broken out on board during the steamer's last voyage from New York to Sydney. Miss Millburn did the steering and her mother acted as lookout.

FADS AND FANCIES

A little watch of gun metal is set in the centre of a bracelet of like material.
The omnipresent ping-pong racket appears on veils in various shades of brown.
Handsome and expensive are the sashes and ties of real lace to be worn with thin gowns.
The peculiarity of a new wrist bag is a silver bracelet which slips over the hand, the bag hanging from it by two silver chains.

A pretty thing in a belt buckle is made of two disks, each a little larger than a quarter, with a fleur de lys in purple enamel.

A broad black satin belt, studded with rhinestones, has a buckle and back slide in elaborate scroll design closely set in rhinestones.
White silk stockings with open work stripes running half way up the leg are embroidered between the stripes with small bow knots of light blue.

Hats of pique or dotted muslin for little girls have big tam crowns tied about with liberty silk ribbon in some delicate tint and forming a large bow in front.
To wear with light colored gowns are pale gray and white shoes finished with bows of ribbon or fancy buckles of gun metal; silver or steel or jeweled buckles are occasionally seen.

Corset bags of silk or muslin are long and narrow, edged at the top with lace and drawn up with ribbon. Very elaborate ones are of white silk or satin painted with sprays of delicate flowers.
The bewitching black picture hat is of a wide, flat shape, all fashioned of tulle, with a bordering of satiny straw to follow the upward sweep of the wide brim at the left side, where it curves high above the two gracefully curling feathers which drop low down over the hair from a handsome Jet ornament, whose duplicate fastens some long looped ends of velvet ribbons at the back.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS



The "Den."

A woman who planned her own house and built it in accordance with her plans had a small bay window room reserved for a "den." The hardwood floor was covered with a dark blue Japanese rug, and the walls were papered in dark blue, with a Japanese design in gold running over it. The room was furnished in the simplest manner with a couch covered with a Japanese cover and piled with gayly colored Japanese pillows. It also contained a small desk with writing appointments. The walls were lined with bookcases, whose shelves were filled with works of fiction. The bay windows were shaded by awnings, making the room delightfully cool. It was intended primarily for rest and recreation, and there the tired housewife would find relaxation for mind and body after the harder work of the day was over. Every afternoon directly after dinner she spent an hour there resting on the lounge and enjoying a chapter from Thackeray or Dickens. There are many housewives of the old school who would consider such a rest in the early afternoon an unparadise waste of time, but it is time gained rather than lost. An hour so spent rests one mentally as well as physically.—New York Tribune.

Cleaning Silver Plate.
A simple method of cleaning silver plate is the old fashioned one where rouge powder is used. First be careful that the silver is perfectly clean. It should be washed thoroughly in hot soap suds to remove all trace of grease. Dry it and rub carefully with a paste of whiting and water. This will remove all tarnish spots. After the paste has dried and been rubbed off rub the silver with the rouge powder wet to a paste with a little warm water. In a few minutes, or as soon as it is dry, polish the silver vigorously with a clean chamois. It will not be necessary to polish silver in this way oftener than once a month, provided the silver is kept clean with hot soap and water, thoroughly rinsed and wiped dry each time it is used. If the use of patent silver soaps and polishing fluids is once begun it must be continued, and these patent processes, which generally contain some acid, ultimately dull the polish of the silver. Do not use any brush to clean silver, except a plate brush, purchased of a silversmith. It is not stiff enough to scratch the metal and will thoroughly clean out the interstices of any chased or graven work.—New York Tribune.

Adjusting Glass Globes.
In fitting on gloves it is a common error to screw them on to the gas fixtures as tightly as possible. This is a grave error, for if the globe has not room into which it will surely break when the gas is lighted and the glass becomes hot. Many mysterious breakages are due to too tight screws.

Screen That Will Not Scratch.
Rubber tips are used on the latest screens to prevent their scratching the highly-polished floors in vogue now.

HOUSEHOLD RECIPES

Southern Tea Cakes—Separate six eggs and beat the yolks very light. Add these to three cups of sugar and one cup of butter creamed together. Sift together three pints of flour (sifted before measuring), a teaspoonful of mixed spices and half a teaspoonful of soda or teaspoonful of baking powder. Add to the other ingredients with the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth. Do not roll out the dough, but break off pieces about the size of a large hickory nut, lay some distance apart in biscuit pans, and bake in moderately hot oven until a delicate brown around the edges.

Rice Souffle With Pineapple—Wash a cupful of rice in several waters; put it into two quarts of boiling water; boil rapidly half an hour, then drain; put one tablespoonful of butter and one tablespoonful of flour in a small pan; when melted add half a cupful of milk; cook until a smooth paste; stir the rice into this with four tablespoonfuls of sugar; beat the white of three eggs to a stiff froth; drop the yolk of one egg into the souffle; mix and stir in carefully the whites of the eggs; turn the mixture into greased cups; stand them in a pan of hot water and cook in a quick oven fifteen minutes; while hot turn out of the cups; arrange them on a platter or put each one in a saucer; garnish with sugared pineapple and serve at once.

Compote of Cherries—A compote of cherries that is pretty to look at, if carefully made, will make an attractive dessert. Cut the stems short from one pound of nice, ripe pie cherries. Put them in a saucepan with a half cup of sugar, and juice of one lemon. Shake and cook slowly for about two minutes. Lift the cherries with a perforated skimmer, arrange them in a pyramid in a glass dish. Cover one teaspoonful of gelatine with two tablespoonfuls of water, add this to the syrup in the saucepan, and strain it into a dinner plate. There should be just enough to cover the bottom nicely. When ready to serve, dip the plate in warm water for an instant, and turn the sheet of gelatine over the cherries. The effect is very good, if the gelatine is not broken.

A FISHERMAN'S LUNCH.

How the True Angler Broils Trout For His Noontide Meal.

In the deep shade of the tree the baskets are laid, and now a fire is started nearby, one of Van Dyke's little "friendship fires," which shall also cook a few trout. "Get two flat stones, Friend—and they'll be hard to find in this hollower country, but they are sometimes worn quite flat—while I gather some sufficient wood." Into the fire the stones go, and the wood is heaped about them. Soon the intense glow of live wood embers indicates that the time has come. The trout, a silver of bacon in each, are placed on one stone, and the other stone is laid upon them. Now the hot embers are raked about and over the stones, and the lunch is spread on the big rock near the spring. O, ye epicures, who think nothing good unless served by a Delmonico or a Sherry, go ye into the mountains, follow a brook for half a day, get wet and tired and hungry, sit down by an ice cold spring, and eat brook trout cooked on the spot, and delicious bread and butter liberally spread with clover honey. Not till then have ye dined.—From "Trout and Philosophy on a Vermont Stream," in *Outing*.

WISE WORDS.

Better a red face than a black heart.—Portuguese proverb.
Who serves the public serves a fickle master.—Dutch proverb.
One must lose a minnow to catch a salmon.—French proverb.
Never advise a man to go to the wars or to marry.—Spanish proverb.
Good management is better than good income.—Portuguese proverb.
Happiness is a roadside flower, blooming on the highway of usefulness.—Ruskin.
Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you.—M. S. Bridge.
The great thing which counts in this world is not talent, but faithfulness.—George Macdonald.
A man's forgiving faculty is in proportion to the greatness of his soul. Little men cannot pardon.—Dryden.
They who eat cherries with the great are likely to have the stones and stems flung in their face.—German proverb.
Every day I see more how necessary it is to be consistent, uncompromising and gentle; for often, perhaps, when a word would not be borne, an act of forbearance or self-denial might be remembered in a cooler moment.—A. Hare.
Soldiers Ordered to Dance.
How the pleasant eccentricities of one generation, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, will persist in breaking out in another, defying time and ridicule and the change of manners: it was the playful way of Frederick the Great when he came across a buxom wench to marry her forthwith to the tallest of his grenadiers, and it stands to the credit of his intuition that these marriages rarely proved failures. Now, either in emulation of his great predecessors or because he cannot help it, the Kaiser has just had a similar attack of gallantry—gallantry, mark you, on a truly imperial scale. He was visiting Crefeld lately, that busy town of silks and velvets on the lower Rhine, and learned from the pretty girl inhabitants that all they wanted in the world was a handful of lieutenants to dance with them. Hey, presto! the autocratic mandate has gone forth that Crefeld is to have its garrison in the shape of a crack hussar regiment; and the Burgomaster is busy preparing it accommodations. That regiment is lucky if it is not christened in future Frauenhusaren, or, worst of all, the Tanzwehr.

When the rattlesnake is excited and angry you can smell him a quarter of a mile. He perspires freely in a nervous fit, and the odor of his cutaneous secretion fills the air. Curious emotions are produced by odors reminiscent of certain events in one's life. Each of us has experienced them. Persons afflicted with rheumatism and gout often suffer the most extraordinary night sweats, and for weeks afterward their garments retain an odor peculiar to the individual sleeping in them. The most careful laundering fails to remove it. It must gradually fade away. This leads me to believe that the odor of the human skin is like unto musk, the power of which to impart odor is such that polished steel will become fragrant of it if the metal be shut in a box where there is musk, contact not being necessary.—New York Press.

A New Fire Escape.

A German invention in fire apparatus has recently been tried with success. It consists of a telescopic ladder, capable of being extended to a length of eighty-five feet, and worked by means of compressed air. The ladder is attached to a heavy truck carrying an air tank. The ladder can be directed at a particular window, or other place in a burning building that it is desirable to reach. A fireman lashed to the end of the ladder is shot up with it, and rescued persons need not clamber down, as the ladder can be quickly lowered with them on it.—Tit-Bits.

Saline Gulf and Fishing.

The water along the entire Gulf coast is much saltier than usual, and, as a consequence, salt water fish, which could formerly only be caught by sailing or rowing out some distance, are now found immediately off the shore. In other words, fishing is better as to the variety, size and quantity of the fish.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

HORTICULTURE



"Sour" Grass in Lawns.

Whenever "sour" grass is seen in lawns it is a sure indication that the acidity of the soil. An application of lime in the fall will sometimes make a very decided change in the grass the following spring. All the clovers are benefited by lime, and lime also gives good results on Kentucky blue grass, which is one of the best varieties for lawns.

An Enemy to Squash Vines.

The old familiar squash bug is rapidly gaining ground over various sections in the destruction of squash and allied plants. It is a difficult insect to combat, owing to its feeding habits, and it sucks its food from the tissues of the vines. A plant can be protected by covering the hill with netting and burying the edges of the cloth about the hill. In some cases truckers plant many more seeds than are necessary, the extra plants being used as a bait for the insects, where they can be caught and destroyed. Clean culture and good fertile soil are good to keep the plants growing vigorously to resist the attacks of these pests. They can be destroyed by hand picking. If pieces of board or other material are laid near the vines, the insects will collect at night under them, when they can be caught and easily destroyed the following morning. During the egg-laying season the vines should be carefully searched for clusters of eggs and destroyed. The young insects also have a tendency to congregate on individual plants and they can be collected by hand.—American Agriculturist.

Plants Which Walk.

Not a few plants are possessed of the actual power of migration, not merely by their seeds becoming scattered, but by an actual geographical movement from year to year. The common purple orchid, for instance, forms a new bulb each year, and each year the new shoot appears nearly an inch from the spot occupied by last year's stem. Tulips planted in the shade will often find their way to a sunny spot. There is a North American fern which sends out a long, gracefully-arching frond, which, under the burden of its weight of buds and leaves, bends to the earth, and the tip takes root, and a new plant soon bursts out at this spot. This peculiarity has gained for the fern the popular names of "Walking Leaf" and "Jumping Fern." Several grasses and sedges develop creeping stems of great length, which give rise to new plants



THE SEA SEDGE.

at every point, or at intervals. The familiar quitch, twitch, or couch, is of this character; but the most striking examples are to be found in maram grass and sea sedge that occur on sand dunes by the sea. These plants of the seashore make ropes of their enormous creeping root-stocks wherewith the sands are tied together, and many banks that would otherwise wash away with the first high tide are held intact.

Pinch Raspberry Tips Sparingly.

The pinching back of growing raspberry canes in order to force the growth of lateral wood is frequently practiced by berry growers, but was thought to be an unwise proceeding. Two sets of experiments were, therefore, tried with blackcaps and red varieties, with the following results: In the pruned row the stumps were more numerous than in the unpruned, and where both tips and laterals had been pinched, more still. There were fewer berries, or rather a lighter yield, in the pruned than in the unpruned rows. This might have been expected because the larger the number of canes the poorer the fruit, as a rule. The smallest yield was from plants trimmed in both laterals and stems.

The reason for this increased number of stumps or canes is that the raspberry produces its new growth from the bases of the old, or two-year-old stems. In this way the new canes resemble the laterals produced higher up on the stem, the difference being that they may not and normally do not appear the season the cane fruits, but push into growth the spring following. For these reasons, therefore, pinching induces the increased development of these buds at the bases of the stems, which wait only favorable conditions to develop.

From these trials the conclusion was drawn that great care must be exercised to remove as little as possible of the tips by summer pinching and to depend mainly upon the thinning of the stems after the leaves have fallen, or at least late enough to insure the non-development of the basal buds. How many stems to leave each plant will depend upon the soil, the variety and its behavior in the neighborhood.—M. G. Kains, in *New England Home-stead*.

Great Colorado.

Besides harvesting peas with a mowing machine and raising asparagus in beds of 100 acres, Colorado now boasts a current patch of eighty acres, the largest in the world. There are 135,000 plants in all.—Philadelphia Record.

VALUABLE POSTAGE STAMPS.

Hawaiian Specimen Brings \$700 at Auction in Philadelphia.

Seven hundred dollars was paid for a tiny piece of paper. The transaction took place in Lippincott's auction rooms at 14 South Seventh street. The little slip was rather crudely engraved. Two words, "Hawaiian Postage," were printed at the top, and two other words, namely, "Two Cents," were printed at the bottom. Around a large, bold figure 5, which is stamped in the centre of the paper, there is a rough scroll design. For this and nothing more—excepting the fact that the little piece of parchment is sole survivor of the first Hawaiian postal issue—an unknown man was willing to pay 700 good American dollars. For another and still smaller bit of paper, one without any scroll at that, some one was ready to pay \$131. It is a stamp which has survived a great many years and belonged to the series of early Philadelphia carrier stamps, issued in 1849 and 1850. The letters "U. S. P. O." are printed at the top of the document. Then comes the single word "Paid," and under this the denomination, "1 cent."

When it came to buying a real pretty stamp, one with the picture of a bird—the American eagle—nicely engraved on it, the numerous bidders who had gathered in the auction room held their hands on their pocketbooks and refused to separate themselves from more than \$100. This was a stamp issued years ago by Frazer & Co. It was good for two cents when turned into the city dispatch post. Scores of other stamps, representing issues which are not so rare as the above, were sold for prices ranging from \$10 to \$100.—Philadelphia North American.

Queer Insurance Risks.

Insurance in England is carried to greater lengths than it is in this country. One company will insure against anything—against twins, for instance, or against loss of voice in a singer. A certain English physician desired to smoke opium for a term of months in order to study the effects of the drug, but he was afraid that he might contract the opium habit. The company insured him against that accident and he began his research, fortified with the knowledge that if he should become an opium smoker there would be paid to his estate \$3000.

On account of the uncertain English weather open air sports and games frequently cannot be carried out on the dates set. When they must be postponed there is a considerable financial loss that for a good percentage is insured against. Calve, Eames, the De Roszkies and Sanderson always carry insurance on their voices when they are in England, and there is not a wealthy London householder who is not well insured against burglary. If a man or a woman wishes to wear some jewel of great value companies will assume the risk of its loss or purloining. They carry constantly policies on the lives of animals—elephants, hyenas, giraffes, lions, tigers—and when Peter, a \$2500 orang outang, was shipped to Jacob Hope, of this city, he had an insurance of \$3000 on its life.—Philadelphia Record.

Anent Leather Breeches.

Many correspondents, writes a contributor, have had their say on the subject of "the century of trousers," but I have not observed that any one has said a word about an article of attire which was so widely displaced by the new fashion—particularly in the rural districts. I refer to leather breeches. They were not allowed to pass away without the mead of one melodious tear. In districts remote from the centres of traffic they died hard. It used to be said that they were last seen in actual wear in Amer-sham, Bucks, a curiously out-of-the-way old country town, and I believe this was so. I remember once asking an old laboring man, who was engaged in clipping hedges in that part, whether he had ever worn them. The answer was: "Did I ever wear leather breeches? Why, on Sundays I never wore anything else when I were a young chap." "And how did you find them?" I inquired. "Ekkaly warm in winter and cool in summer," was the reply; "but they had one drawback. If you happened to get 'em soaking wet you had to sleep in 'em for a week." "Why so?" I asked. "For 'bless you,' was the answer, "if you hadn't, you'd never have been able to get into 'em again." Evidently there was something to be said for the new fashion.—London News.

More Opinion.

The greatness that is thrust upon people is likely to have a string tied to it.
Some people say a man can succeed in this world without making money, but they seldom try it themselves.

The pitcher that goes often to the well is likely to be broken, especially if the hired girl carries it.

After a fool has had a certain amount of luck, people begin to respect him for his wisdom.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Where Vegetation Flourishes.

In Cuba cabbages frequently weigh as much as twenty pounds. All vegetables do well. Radishes may be eaten from fourteen to eighteen days after sowing, lettuce in five weeks after sowing, white corn produces three crops per year. Sweet potatoes are perpetual. The natives dig up the tubers, cut them off and plant the old vines, which produce a new crop in three months. All sorts of fruit, horticultural and greenhouse plants and bulbous stocks are also grown.