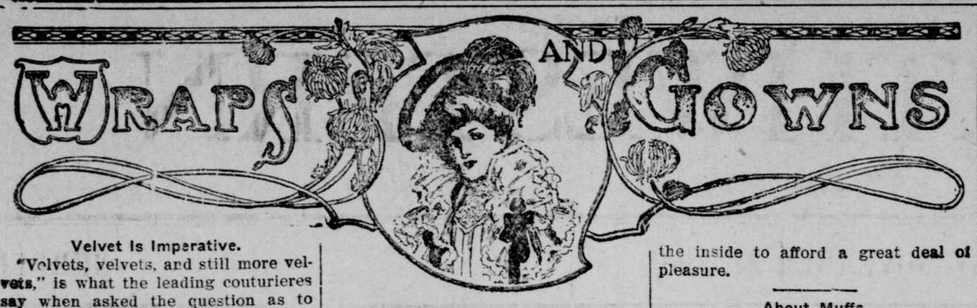


Velvet Is Imperative.

"Velvets, velvets, and still more velvets," is what the leading couturieres say when asked the question as to what will lead in the early winter styles. And, furthermore, they add that when the gown is of cloth—and some of the new cloths are sheer and fine as chiffon—it simply must be trimmed with velvet. It must show the imperative touch of velvet somewhere or other, else it cannot hope to pass muster with the season's styles among modish dressers.

Never was there a woman to whom velvet would or could prove unbecoming. She has only to study her style, her type, her complexion, decide upon her most complimentary colors for street and house wear, and select those in velvet, and presto! her reputation, if not as a beauty, at least as a very well-dressed and good-looking girl, is assured.

The front panel is quite the newest thing in skirts.

Most of the small hats are tricornes or boat-shaped turbans.

The crown is quite distinct from the brim in the new turbans.

Tulle is one of the latest trimming ideas and is used in great quantities.

Coq de roche is most effective as a relief note with gray-green and brown.

Not for years has the separate wrap been such an important feature of dress.

Ribbon of two contrasting shades is very smart for trimming tailor hats.

Lots of fire brown and spinach green will be exploited in panne velvet and net.

The plush coat, put away years ago, is to make its reappearance this winter.

Aigrettes are to be much worn and are of spangled and jetted tulle for turbans.

How to Fit a Sleeve.

The long shoulders of the moment sometimes give a lot of trouble to the amateur dressmaker. The correct way to fit them is to put the under part in first. Tack the full portion of the sleeves into small plaits and make them perfectly fit the size of the armhole.

The effect is prettier if the plaits are loosened after the bolero is fitted, but if desired they can be left stitched for a few inches from the armhole. There are many devices for obtaining the long shoulder effect without actually cutting the long seam, which is so difficult. For example, embroidery and lace can be arranged so as to have the points running down over the top of the arm, and this will be found very effective.

Frozen Tapioca Custard.

"Table Talk" gives this recipe for a delicious dessert: Cook one cupful of fine tapioca in one quart of milk until it looks clear and quite thick. Stir often for the first ten minutes to prevent lumping. Beat together the whites of two and the yolks of three eggs until light, add one cupful of sugar and beat again. Turn this into the cooked tapioca and stir constantly until it thickens like custard, then take from the fire and set away, covered, until cold. Add two teaspoonsful of vanilla, turn into the previously packed freezer and freeze until quite thick. Add the remaining white, mixed with one cupful of thick cream and whipped to a stiff froth. Work this in thoroughly, finish the freezing, repack and set aside for two hours or more before serving.

Fancy Blouse Waist.

Fancy waists always are in demand both for the entire costume and for the separate bodice, which is far too useful and desirable to be allowed to fall into disuse. This one includes a novel scarf and has the merit of closing to the left of the front, which is a feature specially worthy of note. As illustrated the material is onion brown chiffon veiling, with yoke of cream colored lace, scarf and plaited portions of cuffs of brown chiffon taffeta and banding of taffeta embroidered in a slightly darker shade of heavy silk. Various combinations

can, however, be made and the trimming can be any fancy braid or applique which may be liked. The scarf gives peculiar grace to the whole and serves to conceal the closing.

The waist is made with a fitted foundation on which the tucked fronts and back are arranged and can be made to blouse at both back and front, or at the front only, and be drawn down more snugly at the back, as may be preferred. The yoke is fitted by means of shoulder seams and is arranged over the waist and sleeves, so giving the broad shoulder line. The sleeves are full with novel cuffs and the neck is finished with a regulation stock. The lining is closed at the center front, the waist invisibly at the left side on a line with the scarf.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4¼ yards 21 inches wide, 3½ yards 27 inches wide or 2 yards 44 inches wide, with ⅞ yard of all-over lace for yoke and collar and ⅞ yard of silk for scarf and plaited portions of cuffs.

Making Artificial Cotton.

Artificial cotton is now being made in France from the cellulose of the fir tree, freed from bark and knots. Pulverized fibers are placed in a large cylinder and steamed for ten hours, after which bisulphate of soda is added and the whole heated for thirty-six hours, when it becomes white. It is then washed and given an electro-chemical bleaching by means of chloride of lime. After being rolled the cellulose is mixed with a solution of chloride of zinc, hydrochloric and nitro acids and a little each of castor oil, casein and gelatin, which gives a very consistent paste. This paste is drawn into threads, and after being passed over a gummed cloth, they are immersed in a weak solution of carbonate and dried. To give solidity the thread is treated to an ammoniated bath and rinsed in cold water. Cotton has also been made from the wood.

Of Turkish Toweling.

Bath robes that can be readily laundered possess certain advantages over all others that are readily recognized. This one is shapely, comfortable and altogether satisfactory and is made of Turkish toweling showing blue fig-

ures on a white ground, the collar and cuffs being of plain white. The robe is simplicity itself and is shaped by means of shoulder and under-arm seams. The sleeves are in two pieces each in regulation style and are finished with roll-over cuffs that match the collar. The quantity of material required for the medium size is 6¼ yards 27, 3½ yards 44 or 3¼ yard 52 inches wide, with ¾ yard 27 or ½ yard 44 inches wide for collar and cuffs.

World's Largest Wireless Station.

What is claimed will be the largest station for wireless telegraphy in the world is nearing completion at Pisa, Italy. It will be ready by the end of the year. Through this station direct connection will be afforded with all countries of Europe, as well as the United States and Canada, and with all vessels on the Mediterranean, Indian and Atlantic oceans.

For Those Inclined to Stoutness.

The girl whose waist measure exceeds twenty-four inches will find that a girdle that is boned under the arms and droops to a decided point back and front decidedly decreases the apparent size of her waist. The long sloping line will afford grace and slenderness and the addition of a short sash in the back will prove wonderfully becoming.

Plants in Windows.

The position of plants in a house depends altogether on whether you wish a symmetrically developed plant which will look well on all sides and yield pleasure from all points of view, or whether you wish your window to look most attractive from the outside. In the first case you will turn your plants occasionally. In the last you will leave them in the same position all the time.

One ardent lover of flowers has long windows in her parlor, almost to the floor. She gives them up entirely to her plants. In each window is a plant stand filled with various choice specimens of different kinds. The plants get no direct sunshine, but they have good light and the sun's rays fall on them diagonally a part of the day. The plants grow vigorously, but they are never turned. Of course they grow toward the light and they soon form a beautiful wall of leaves and blossoms, for in growing they accommodate themselves to each other. The plants bloom abundantly and from the outside, particularly toward the spring, the window is a mass of blossoms. Of course the greatest beauty is from the outside, but enough can be seen from the inside to afford a great deal of pleasure.

About Muffs.

Muffs are a very important item in the fashionable girl's winter outfit; and the new ones are just as quaint and old-timey as are the smart effects they accompany. There are the familiar flat pouch-shape, the round pillow, bigger than ever; and nowadays they term the Victorian what used to be called the granny muff.

A very fascinating novelty combines a handbag and muff; the bag is mounted invisibly in the top of the muff, just a jeweled clasp peeping out to indicate its whereabouts. Others in the same style show merely a purse, but either form is in the height of fashion.

Tough meat may be made tender by sprinkling with vinegar.

Lamb chops are delicious if dipped in lemon juice just before broiling.

Kerosene oil and a soft cloth will keep mahogany furniture in fine condition.

Discolorations on china baking dishes and custard cups can be removed with whiting.

Hold a hot flatiron a few moments above a white spot on furniture. It will soon disappear.

Soak lamp wicks in vinegar, then dry them thoroughly, to keep the lamp from smoking.

When lighting a gas stove it will often give a slight explosion and light wrong, thus causing no heat. Turn the gas off very quickly and on again. It will then light properly without any further trouble.

Pimola and Cheese Salad.

This salad is new and pretty. Break up two square cream cheeses and mix with two dozen olives and six pimentos, both chopped rather fine, or, instead, with two dozen pimolas, which are olives stuffed with pimentos; press this into a pan and put on ice, and when you wish to use it cut in strips and serve on lettuce with French dressing. The contrasting colors of the green olives, the scarlet pimentos and the white cheese give a most attractive effect.

Season of Furs.

This is to be a season of furs. There are endless neckpieces that are really more ornamental than useful. Velvet and fur will be a favorite combination. Parisians have long followed the fashion set by the Russians, of wearing their exquisite furs at all seasons, and it is not an uncommon thing to see the leaders of the fashion in the most dashing little victorias in summer frocks of exquisite crepe de chine and the like and plumed velvet hats, with a beautiful pelerine or victorine in furs thrown carelessly over the shoulders.

Those Pots and Kettles.

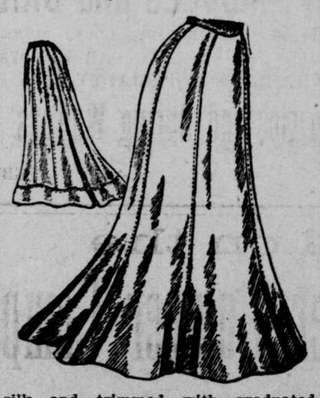
Housekeepers do not usually object to washing their china and silver, but when it comes to the pots and pans they "just hate" to begin on them. A careful housekeeper of many years says that if the objectionable articles are washed when they are first through being used, while they are yet warm and the food which has been cooked in them not dried on, it is a very easy task, and quickly done. Then when the dishes are finished the bugbear of ironware has vanished.

Hats.

Some rough felt hats have brims of black, while the wide punched-in or creased crown is of some other color; for instance, grass green, deep crimson, or creamy white. These are generally trimmed with black ribbon gathered around the crown, bows of the same and cock's tail plumage or cauteaux to match the crown.

Seven Gored Skirt.

Plain flared skirts never lose their vogue no matter what other styles may appear. This one is peculiarly well adapted to cloth and all heavier fabrics and allows choice of a band flounce at the lower edge or any other trimming that may be preferred. As illustrated it is made of copper colored cheviot, stitched with corticelli



silk and trimmed with graduated bands of taffeta held by ornamental buttons, but all materials in vogue for suits and for skirts that are heavy enough to be available for the style are equally correct.

The skirt is made in seven gores, which are cut to fit with perfect smoothness at the upper portion and to flare freely at the lower. At the back are flat inverted plaits and beneath them the closing is made.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 11½ yards 27 inches wide, 7 yards 4 inches wide, or 5½ yards 52 inches wide, with the flounce; 8¾ yards 27 inches wide, 5 yards 44 inches wide, or 4 yards 52 inches, without flounce.

RUSKIN'S KINDNESS OF HEART.

Absence of Snobbishness in Character of Great Writer.

An intimate friend of Ruskin's relates an incident illustrating that simplicity, gentleness and sympathy which were characteristic of his relations with the servants of his household. "I was dining with Mr. Ruskin one evening, when during the meal, as we were enjoying a rhubarb tart, I happened to say that it was the first I had tasted that season, and remarked how delicious it was. Mr Ruskin manifested delight at my appreciation of his rhubarb, and ringing for one of the servants, he said, 'Please tell Jackson I want him. When Jackson came into the room his master said: 'I am very pleased to tell you, Jackson, that your first pulling of rhubarb is quite a success and my friend here says that it is delicious.' When we had finished dining, a servant brought lighted candles into the room, which was almost dark, the window being shaded by the dense, overhanging trees, although the sun had not yet gone down. After placing the candles, she was about to leave the room, when she suddenly stopped and said: 'Please, sir, there's a beautiful sunset sky just now over the Old Man.' Ruskin rose from his chair, and said: 'Thank you, Kate for telling us,' then left the room. He returned soon. 'Yes,' he said to me 'it is worth seeing. Come,' and he led the way upstairs to his bedroom It was a glorious sight. The sun was sinking behind the Coniston Old Man mountain, and the mist and ripples on the lake were tinged with a crimson flush. We sat in the window recess without speaking a word till the sun went down behind the mountain."—Harper's Weekly.

WHY ILLINOIS IS "SUCKER."

Preacher at Banquet Says That Natives Believe Big Stories.

In modern Egypt, which is in the southern part of Illinois, some of the native men gave a banquet in honor of an eminent politician of the ilk. There were many speeches in praise and panegyric of the chief guest. They were superlative to that degree which is the full tether of grammar. A young preacher present was moved thereby to get so far back as the comparative in a story. He said:

"A short time ago I attended a banquet in Indiana at which were present many men from other states, and in turn the speakers of the occasion soared to the empyrean many times and swept the skies and gathered stars in their glowing and extravagant eulogies upon the merits and virtues of their respective commonwealths. The Texan was eloquent about the 'Lone Star,' the Kentuckian became lurid concerning 'the dark and bloody ground,' the Ohioan went wild on 'buckeyes,' and one was moved to sing something for Illinois.

"'We of Illinois,' he said, 'frequently hear these beautiful boosts of other states, and we not only listen with bated breath and profound interest but believe it all implicitly. The reason for this is that we are, individually and collectively, from Galena to Goshen and from Chicago to Cairo, as is well known throughout the civilized world, and in some parts of New Jersey, simply suckers.'

"We at this table to-night," the young preacher concluded, "believe all that has been said of our distinguished guest, as is becoming to true 'Suckers.'"

Not Even Then.

A Yorkville police court lawyer defended a policeman at the police trial before Deputy Commissioner Lindsley. The patrolman was charged with striking a roundsman with his night stick when ordered to the station house.

"Why didn't you arrest him?" asked the lawyer.

"I don't arrest in such cases," replied the roundsman. "In all cases I order the offender to the station house."

"But a weapon was used in this case," persisted the lawyer. "This made it a felonious assault."

"Yes, sir."

"Suppose that this defendant had drawn his revolver and shot you dead What would you have done in that case?"

"Nothing," answered the roundsman. "I would have done nothing. I would not have arrested him even then."—New York Sun.

Across the Hills.

Across the hills
The mountains rise
And kiss the raveled, blue-gowned skies;
The serried trees stand bare and bold,
Where crimson leaves and yellow gold
Robe richly every bosky dell,
And Ceres sighing that her spell
Has ended, waves a long farewell.

Across the hills
The song birds flee
To Southland's newer Arcady;
The robin, bluebird and the thrush
Have left behind the woodland's hush
Like as the pensive, prayerful times,
When some cathedral's sacred chimes
Have stilled to memory-echoed rhymes.

Across the hills—
And do we know
The meaning of the splendid glow?
The autumn—is it understood,
That all is beautiful and good?
The Master bids us be of cheer,
His works in earth and sky appear
Across the hills—and He is near.
—Frank Bates Flanner, in the Indianapolis News.

The Casuistry of Sydney.

Sydney is a six-year-old of penetrating precocity. He always has not been six years old, and previous to that time his mother took him along with her on the street cars of their city without paying any fare for him

After he had become six it did not occur to her especially that he was so old, and she continued not to pay his fare. One day he went on the cars with an aunt who was visiting his mother. She paid his fare.

"What did you do that for, auntie?" he inquired anxiously. "Mamma never does."

"Never pays your fare?" exclaimed the aunt. "What does she do?"

"Oh, she just lets me pass for an infant."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Definition of Author.

At a recent dinner of authors and actors the conversation happened to touch on Haddon Chambers, the well known English playwright. "Who is he?" some one asked. "He?" was the retort. "Oh, he is a small man surrounded by women!"—New York Times.

Waste Little Time in Japan.

In Japan people conduct their business with wonderful celerity and without waste of words. Even a sale by auction is a very quiet affair. Each bidder writes his name and the amount of his bid upon a slip of paper, which he then places in a box. When the bidding is over the box is opened by the auctioneer and the goods are declared the property of the highest bidder.

He Felt Sick.

A small boy who accompanied his mother to church on a recent Sunday grew pretty restless before the sermon was over. He finally crept up close to her and whispered: "Mamma, mamma, I feel sick." "Do you?" asked his mother, rather anxiously. "Why, where or how do you feel sick?" "Well," replied the youngster, "I feel homesick."

Rooted Beliefs of Indians.

The Indian, when in battle and fatally wounded, believes that if his medicine man can reach him with his medicine before he dies it will give him instant relief and he will be able to escape from the battle. He thinks every man is honest until he finds him out, in which event he loses all confidence in him and never gets over it.

Animated Steel Girder.

A steel girder fell while being hoisted to the top of a San Francisco building and struck a house mover's wooden roller, which ricochetted across the street, passed through the window of a crockery store and swept a fifty-foot counter clear of the bric-a-brac, cut glass, dinner sets, vases, etc., that were upon it.

About the Sweet Potato.

The so-called "sweet potato" is no potato at all, but belongs to an entirely different family, having truly an enlarged root of a creeping, twining vine, which has a blossom something like a morning glory. Sweet potatoes are richer in starch and sugar than the common potato.

Hospital Erected in One Hour.

In Austria a few years ago a complete hospital was built and was made ready to receive patients within an hour, a feat which seems almost impossible even when we know that all the component parts of the building were at hand.

Effect of Bee Stings.

Two bee stings suffice to kill a sparrow in two or three hours. Analysis of the bee poison has shown that it contains three principles—one convulsive, one stupefying and one which gives rise to acute inflammation.

Put Out Oil Fire.

When the oil in a big tank in Fresno county, California, was fired by lightning, a cannon ball was shot into the tank and the oil ran out through trenches that had been dug for the purposes.

Duration of Life.

Of 100,000 children ten years old, 89,032 will be alive at twenty-five years old and 31,243 will survive to the age of seventy-three.

Drink Only Home-Made Wine.

Persia has no distilleries, breweries or saloons, only home-made wine, and it is hard to get drunk there.

Recipe for Contentment.

If you want anything, earn it. And if you can't get it even after you earn it, be happy without it.

Uninteresting Objects.

A pug dog and a really consistent woman are the two most uninteresting things in the world.

When Babes Learn to Walk.

Nearly 10 per cent of children learn to walk before they are ten months old.

DANGER IN SMOKING

SOME POINTERS FOR USERS OF THE WEED.

Abnormal Heat in the Mouth a Menace to Health—Even Lungs and Stomach May Be Affected, Especially in the Hot Weather.

"Speaking of the smoking habit, do you know I have made what seems to me to be an important discovery and I was reminded of it just now by a remark some fellow made in connection with the heat of the smoke we suck into our mouths through a pipe-stem or the end of a cigar," said a user of the weed to a New Orleans Times-Democrat. "Few persons who smoke have failed to comment on the fact that smoking is often very painful on account of the heat in the summer months, and not a few smokers of my acquaintance cut down the quantity of cigars or cigarettes smoked during this season of the year. Many men of a peculiarly sensitive temperament will redden in the face under the influence of the heat contained in a cigar. Of course, the smoke is cooled somewhat before it reaches the mouth, cooled in the process of sifting through the cigar or the pipe stem. But each draw increases the amount of heat in the cigar or pipe stem. That's why cigars often burn the fingers a bit when there is yet a good smoke left.

"But all this is said by the way of leading up to the point I want to make. Smoking nearly always makes us thirsty. Drinking beer is a good thing for the extravagant smoker in the summer months. It acts as a sort of counter-irritant. The heat in the mouth and throat, which is one of the immediate and direct results of smoking, is a menace, in my judgment, to the health of the man who smokes too much. If the heat should be confined to the mouth and throat it would be bad enough. Even then it would seriously interfere with digestion and produce other bad results, probably injuring the teeth and gums. But it does not stop here. At least I am convinced it has not, in my own case. Some part of the heat gets into the stomach and lungs. It is not necessary that we should swallow the smoke in order to bring about this result. The air we breathe becomes heated in passing through the mouth and on into the lungs; that is, it is heated to a point above the normal and of course anything that is in the least abnormal is not good for the system.

"It is just these little influences, resulting in almost inappreciable abnormalities, that are the most dangerous to the human system, because we are less apt to shy around them. We notice and dodge the big dangers. We encourage and invite the small ones. It is just so with the matter of heat which comes from the cigar or the pipe. That this heat can and often does injure the human system I am thoroughly convinced. Of course, I do not mean to say that all men are influenced as I am, even among those who use tobacco quite as extravagantly. Many men are, no doubt. There can be no question, at any rate, about my own case and it may not be amiss to mention the rather singular fact that my stomach has been more affected by the heat than my lungs."

Dangerous Gifts.

To possess a sprig of edelweiss is considered by Swiss maidens a proof of the devotion of their lovers. The reason is that the plant is said to grow only at the snow-line, and in generally inaccessible places. Recently several lives have been lost in the Alpine districts. And yet this plant requires no such freezing atmosphere as the Alpine snow-line in which to grow and flourish. It is a hardy plant of the daisy or composite order, and though delicate and fragile, blooms in poor soil, especially liking rocks exposed to the full mid-day sun. In any London garden it could flourish, spreading out its downy leaves and stem and its pretty bloom surrounded by white velvety leaves. But so great was the desire to possess it that in several of the Swiss cantons there are strict laws against plucking it, and some of the Alpine clubs have a series of fines for those who transgress. But the difficulty of procuring it only makes some people more determined to obtain it; hence disastrous results.

Practice What You Preach.

Have you any plan or notion
As to how this world should run?
Have you made a great commotion
Showing how it may be done?
Do you live as you've directed
In the good things that you teach?
And (to questions you're subjected)
Do you practice what you preach?

It is laudable, I'm sure,
If you've any worthy plan
That, in time, may help secure
Future happiness for man.
But if you belie your teaching
(Please believe it, I beseech)
You would better give up preaching
Till you practice what you preach.

Many things are advocated
That will keep the world from sin;
If you feel quite agitated
O'er the subject, then begin
To explain the situation
To your friends, and unto each
Be a living illustration
That you practice what you preach.
—Benjamin B. Keech, in Leslie's Weekly.

New Breakfast Food.

A little girl who was eating codfish for breakfast the other morning for the first time was seen to stop and examine her plate with deep interest.

"Mamma," she said, "what kind of fish is this? I have just found a hair in it."

"It is codfish, dear," was the answer.

"Oh," commented her daughter in a disappointed tone. "I thought probably it was mermaid."—Harpers' Weekly.

Jap Laborers for Mexico.

Many Japanese laborers are arriving at San Francisco en route to Mexico. On Oct. 6 a party of ninety-five arrived under contract to work in coal mines at Las Esperanzas, Mexico, and proceeded thitherward under a bond furnished by the Southern Pacific Company.

Export of Prunes.

Of the 66,000,000 pounds of prunes exported in 1903, 9,000,000 went from San Francisco and 53,500,000 from New York, although they are chiefly the product of the Pacific coast.

Small Farms in Japan.

Only 14,995,272 acres, or 15.7 per cent of the whole area of Japan, exclusive of Formosa, consists of arable land, and 55 per cent of the agricultural families cultivate less than two acres each; 30 per cent cultivate two acres or more up to one and one-half cho, or a little less than three and three-quarter acres, leaving 15 per cent of the farmers who cultivate farms of three and three-quarter acres or more.—London Engineer.

Between Wind and Water.

Not only will all the inhabitants of Chicago be crazy in 750 years, but in somewhat more than 3,000 years, according to a geological expert, the site of the present western metropolis will be covered with water. Let the Windy City begin now to prepare for its watery grave.—Boston Transcript.

Gorgeous Tibetan Pheasants.

Two of the most prized denizens of our aviares comes from Tibet. These are the gorgeous golden and Amherst pheasants. The latter, it is suggested, could profitably be introduced into our coverts.

Dancers' Wonderful Endurance.

In a dancing tournament at Paris M. Vincent and Mlle. Scherin succeeded in waltzing for six hours and three-quarters without a moment's rest; while a Berlin man waltzed for sixteen consecutive hours, from 9 a. m. to 1 o'clock the next morning.

Plaint of Grave-Digger.

"Well, John," asked an acquaintance of an old-time grave-digger, "how's trade with you?" "Bad, man," was the reply; "very bad, indeed. I have na buried a leavin' soul for a month."

Woman's Charms Not Lasting.

The abundant smooth black tresses of the Japanese woman may be said to form her chief beauty. Unfortunately, however, her hair invariably thins after 30.

London Kept Well Washed.

Last year upward of 42,000,000 gallons of water were used in washing the streets and courts in the city of London.

Living is High in Spain.

The cost of living has doubled in Spain in the last few years and emigration is increasing rapidly.

Many a man who wouldn't even think of making a wife of his cook has no scruples about making a cook of his wife.

The church service that does not stretch out on to the street only serves the devil.

Cavalry of the west coast of Madagascar ride oxen.

Rusty pipes do not enrich the water of life.

It is better to be envied than educated.

A man may be loud and yet not say much.