SOCIETY AT THE SEASHORE

The summer is with us again and the water is ready for bathing. In spite of the winds that sometimes blow cold the hardiest of the young women are already dancing in the surf and others are getting their water gowns ready.

The old stand-by serge is coming rapidly to the fore ah the best material for bathing dresses. Serge comes in forest green and all the new colors which make it so admirable; then, too, it does not hug the figure as closely as flannel.

Forest green is an admirable color for the water, especially combined with geranium. It is so extremely sensitive to the rays of the sun, the least sparkle of sunshine sending it forth in brilliancy.

All the new shades of red are worn, even to Savoy, that color something like beet, though more intense, which is dying out of favor. It is becoming only to such faultless complexions.

Mohair is a surf favorite in the lighter grades. There comes a mohair as soft as silk, yet much more durable, and this is made up into the most charming bathing suits.

A blouse of gray mohair was embroidered in a darker shade of gray. The embroidery was done by hand and was of a coarse but very effective kind. Embroidery is largely used upon water suits as it is not heavy, and is warranted to keep its shape.

Braiding is also seen. A suit of Scottish check, worn by one of the first bathers of the season, was trimmed with very narrow bands of musketeer braid. Care must be taken that the braid is waterproof, warranted not to run. This can only be ascertained by sewing a sample of the braid upon the goods and soaking both in a basin of salt water. If it stands the test after being dried in the sun, then it is a good bathing material.

China and India silks, the materials which were worn so much last year for bathing suits, are not popular. They cling to the figure, but they make admirable beach suits. Many bathers like to don a beach suit and sit in the sand for a sun bath for an hour a day. For them there is nothing as good as India silk, for it is light and allows the sun and air to play upon the body. In the water it is too clinging.

The devices for making the skirts of bathing suits stand out are many; one of the latest being a stiffened lining. A serge suit of light weight was lined with a light weight buckram, both materials being by nature stiff. The skirt was laid in plaits, few in front but numerous at the back, and was hung precisely as accurately as though it were to be wore in the street. And the result, when worn the first bathing day, was delightful. It stood out even when dripping with water and the young women, all of whom were disporting in the waves with lined skirts, were proud of their couturiere.

The bathing corset is a "Zaza." It consists of a band of ribbon stiffened with a whalebone at front, sides and back, six bones are sewed at each side and two in front where the "corset" is hooked. It reaches little above the waist line and is a support for the skirts, without which support many women are uncomfortable.

There is another bathing corset which can also be made very pretty. Its skeleton is made of four inches of bone in front and four inches at the back, with a side measure of three inches. Ribbons are carried from front to side and to the back until a lattice work is formed of ribbons. This corset is strong and wears well. The ribbon should be wash ribbon. The ordinary taffeta ribbon is said to be a wash ribbon. But it is better to try it.

It is the fashionable thing in France to have a gown made for wearing to the bath house. It may be of foulard in simple design so aranged that it is easily taken off. One of these is buttoned straight down the front underneath a fichu of white mull. It can be slipped off and the bathing dress put on. Any of the bath houses are very bare and devoid of mirrors; but with a dress of this kind a woman can make herself presentable without the aid of a pier glass. The very fashionable bathers are carried to the surf in what looks to us like a tiny bath house, the maid following after with a robe. That is the way the millionairesses of Paris enter the surf.

AMERICA'S SEA CONQUERORS OF 1899.

ARTILLERY BEFORE SANTIAGO.

Our Men Were Quick to Realize Its Defects.

Our artillery made one of two efforts to come into action on the firing line of the infantry, but the black powder rendered each attempt fruitless, says Col. Theodore Roosevelt in Scribner's. The Spanish guns used smokeless powder, so that it was difficult to place them. In this respect they were on a par with their own infantry and with our regular infantry and dismounted cavalry, but our only two volunteer infantry regiments, the Second Massachusetts and the Seventy-first New York, and our artillery, all had black powder. This rendered the two volunteer regiments, which were armed with the antiquated Springfield, almost useless in the battle, and did practically the same thing for our artillery wherever it was formed within rifle range. When one of the guns was discharged a thick cloud of smoke shot out and hung over the place, making an ideal target, and in half a minute every Spanish gun and rifle within range was directed at the particular spot thus indicated; the consequence was that after a more or less lengthy stand the gun was silenced or driven off. We got no appreciable help from our guns on July 1. Our men were quick to realize the defects of our artillery, but they were entirely philosophic about it, not showing the least concern at its failure. On the contrary, whenever they heard our artillery open they would grin as they looked at each other, and remark: "There go the guns again; wonder how soon they'll be shut up," and shut up they were sure to be. The light battery of Hotchkiss one-pounders, under Lieut. J. B. Hughes of the Tenth cavalry, was handled with conspicuous gallantry.

An Unnamed Hero.

From the London Daily News: Among the melancholy application for "leave to presume death" in the Stella disaster was one touching in its revelation of a deed of heroism. The applicant was a Miss Baker, whose father, a major, had gone down with the vessel. Both were about to perish, when the father made a piteous appeal to a boat load of passengers who were leaving the side to find room for his daughter. One man, of whose identity there is absolutely no trace, instantly stepped back to the ship and allowed the lady to take his place. As the boat cleared the side the vessel went down, carrying with it the girl's father and her unknown rescuer. How beautiful! How unutterably sad! His anonymity seems somehow to enhance the heroic grandeur of his death. Nothing would have been gained by knowing his name. A man capable of such a deed wants no mortuary honors nor the local habitation of a monument. He belongs to the infinite of greatness, and his fitting grave is the sea.

How He Felt.

Philadelphia Record: "That was a narrow escape, old man," remarked Cinchly as he picked up the fellow who had been struck by a trolley. "How do you feel?" "Well, I'll acknowledge that I feel a trifle run down," chuckled the other, as he leisurely betook himself away.

EMPIRE OR REPUBLIC?

Those Who Would Solve a Great Question Must First Acquire Information.

IS AN EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISE

First Greater America Exposition Offers a Splendid Opportunity to Study Our Colonial Possessions—Omaha, July 1 to November 1, 1899.

The dominant purpose of the Greater America Exposition project is to bring the American people into actual contact with representative types of the natives of the Philippine islands, as well as those of Cuba, Porto Rico and Hawaii; and the products and resources of their soil and industries; point out the commercial possibilities of a closer union, and afford the widest possible information on every phase of the pending question of expansion. This it is proposed to do by comprehensive exhibits, not only from the Philippine islands, but from the other islands named.

The first acquisition of colonial territory by the United States was of such recent occurrence that this first formal manifestation of the chief characteristics of these acquired lands is fraught with an importance not readily conceived, but which must commend this enterprise to all thoughtful citizens who are patriotically bent on so solving every great national question as to best insure the progress and perpetuity of the republic.

Never before did any great exposition project contemplate the enlightenment of the people of the country upon a question that so thoroughly occupied and perplexed the public mind as does the question of national territorial expansion. Upon the wisdom of the absorption by this republic of the fertile tropical lands wrested from Spain by the recent war, the greatest minds are divided, and their earnest contention finds its reflection in the apprehensions, perplexities, aspirations and hopes of the humblest citizens, who are equally earnest in combating or upholding, with undoubted patriotic zeal, the contemplated national policy of expansion. As a matter of fact, few adherents of either side of this great controversy are adequately equipped with the knowledge best calculated to lead them to a wise solution of the problem. While Americans are heatedly discussing the capacity of the Filipino for self government, or his adaptability to enlightened citizenship, none of us, with the exception of the few returning and heroic promoters of American arms and valor on far shores have ever seen a Filipino. Fourteen months ago most of us had never heard the name. Those who recalled their childhood's lessons knew that there was somewhere, few knew just where, a group of sea-girt lands known as the Philippine islands; but it was the reverberating echoes of the valiant Dewey's unerring guns that fixed in the American vocabulary the word Filipino.

Aside from this pre-eminently interesting and novel phase of the Greater America Exposition project, it is proposed to present the most comprehensive and instructive exhibition of American ingenuity, and industrial handicraft, ever attempted. The wonderful perfection and economy of American manufacturing industry will be shown as never before, and in a charmingly interesting and instructive way, by means chiefly of live exhibits, or model factories in actual operation and turning out their finest products, with every period of their mysterious processes visible to the eye of the observer.

The Greater America project is unique also in that it is the first of its kind ever projected and carried to a conclusion without having first made heavy drafts upon public treasuries, and exacted large sums of the money of taxpayers without their individual sanction. It has asked no appropriations from state or national governments, but its purposes have so commended themselves that several of the departments of the national government have voluntarily offered the management such aid as was found possible in the collection and transportation and transportation of the proposed insular exhibits which has materially advanced the plans of the management.

ARCH OF THE STATES.

PRESS BUILDING.

The Old Plantation at the Greater America Exposition at Omaha this summer will be a reproduction only in name of the same feature at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. The collection of darkeys will be larger and more representative of plantation life, and the habitations will be more picturesque and stable. It will be practically a new amusement feature.

The cylorama at the Greater America Exposition, beginning July 1 in Omaha, will present a splendid scenic reproduction of the great battle of Missionary Ridge.

The floral adornments, in keeping with the colonial features of the exposition, will be distinctively tropical, and thousands of the rarest treasures of the tropics have been and are being brought from afar to grace their symmetrical and scenic lawns, and parks, and buildings.

There will be an elaborate and comprehensive representation of a Colorado gold mine at the Greater America Exposition in Omaha this summer. It will be modeled in proportions never before attempted outside of the actual work of mining.