

FOR HOME AND WOMEN

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR MAIDS AND MATRONS.

Spring Foulard with Velvet and Lace—Dinner Gown—Men and Their Wives—The Age of "Slatterns"—Let There Be Light—Grace Culture.

'Tis Said That Absence Conquers Love.
(Old Favorite Series.)
[Frederick William Thomas, the author of this song, was born in Providence, R. I., in 1808. He moved to the South, where he was in turn lawyer, editor, professor, Methodist minister and lecturer. He was a prolific writer of verses. He died in 1881. The song we give was written about 1830.]

'Tis said that absence conquers love;
But, oh, believe it not!
I've tried, alas! its powers to prove—
But thou art not forgot!
Lady, though fate has bid us part;
Yet still thou art as dear.
As fixed in this devoted heart
As when I clasped thee here.

I plunge into the busy crowd,
And smile to hear thy name;
And yet, as if I thought aloud,
They know me still the same.
And when the wine-cup passes round,
I toast some other fair;
But when I ask my heart the sound,
Thy name is echoed there.

And when some other name I learn,
And try to whisper love,
Still will my heart to thee return,
Like the returning dove.
In vain; I never can forget,
And would not be forgot:
For I must bear the same regret
Whatever may be my lot.

Even as the wounded bird will seek
Its favorite bower to die,
So, lady, I would hear thee speak
And yield my parting sigh.
'Tis said that absence conquers love;
But, oh! believe it not!
I've tried, alas! its power to prove
But thou art not forgot.

The Age of "Slatterns."

Did you ever stop to think, asks an English magazine, what a luxury good, pure complexion soap is? It is one of the blessings of modern advancement, and one of the privileges, and, we may say, attainments of civilization. Even in the last century a great step has been taken in regard to cleanliness, and women have found out that pure soap and water, and the free employment of them, have proved the greatest aids to beauty. In the days when powdered hair and the accompaniment of patches and powder, it can only be imagined what strenuous efforts our great-grandmothers must have made in order to obtain absolute cleanliness in the face of fashion. A writer with whom we are all familiar once termed the beauties of his time "slatterns." This we believe to be libel, and we are inclined to pronounce that gentleman unworthy the name of gentleman, since probably out of spite because he was not held up to adoration by those very "slatterns," who were, of course, the belles, as he thought he deserved. But truth to tell, the athletic, well-groomed, wholesome-looking woman of today is far and away ahead of her great-grandmother because of her healthful exercise, her out-of-door life, and—her free use of, not cosmetics, but good complexion soap and water.

Grace Culture.

A woman who has improved a naturally ungraceful figure says that it has been accomplished by remembering every time she is required to stand to lift herself upon her toes and let herself down gently, leaving her weight upon the balls of her feet, instead of upon the heels. "When this is done," she says, "it is not necessary to think of chin or shoulders." She has learned to walk in this way, and says that he feet grow less tired than formerly, because the portion of her foot which was intended to bear the weight is in proper use. A glance at the position of the arch of the instep will prove that the body's weight was never intended to rest upon the heels, and the habit of throwing it there accounts for weak backs and kindred ills.

Dinner Gown.



Jetted lace bodice and tunic over white tulle.

Men and Their Wives.

Men soon forget what they have said themselves, but their memories are singularly retentive of what their wives have said of them. Only a woman of ignoble nature fosters her husband's weaknesses; a true wife always "holds him up to his best"; without flatter she makes him feel that she is his fondest admirer. Men are grateful for forbearance in their

FOULARD WITH VELVET AND LACE.



wives, for often, while asserting most loudly that they are right, they are frequently conscious that they are wrong. Given a little time and a little silence they will often show in actions—rarely in words—that they have been mistaken. A man expects his wife to be better than he. No matter how little religion a man may have himself, his ideal wife is always a woman with the purity of soul that only a Christian can have; and to a good man it is usually part of his religion to believe that his wife is morally higher and nobler than himself. Altogether, too few wives realize that novelty and variety is as attractive to a man after marriage as before. The same gown evening after evening, perhaps the same coiffure year in and year out, may not exactly pall upon the taste of a devoted husband, but he soon ceases to look at his wife with the same interest as heretofore. After a while she will miss the fond little compliments that are so pleasant to receive, and one of the most potent of her womanly weapons grows rusty from disuse. A wife's position in the estimation of her husband is always what she is, not what she claims to be.

Let There Be Light.

Light and sunshine are good medicines. They not only help to cure, but they assist in preventing. It is strange, therefore, that so many in the world should be content to do without either. We have windows and doors in our houses, but there are many of us who keep both closed as much as possible. The sunshine fades the carpets and the open windows let in dust which spoils the furniture. That is what some careful housewives say. There may be something in this, but not much. A faded carpet is much more desirable than a faded cheek, and dust is not the worst thing that comes to us. Why, the preachers tell us we are made of dust, and to that condition we are sure to return. So why be afraid of it? It can be swept out and brushed out. But there is only one way to get air into the house and that is by not being afraid of the dust or of the sun. We pity with all our hearts, the tenement house dwelling whose rooms open into sunless shafts. And yet there are many of us who make our homes as nearly like those ill-ventilated tenements as possible. We have open spaces on each side. The sun can touch our windows in the morning and in the evening, but we shut it out so as to look fresh and keep clean. No greater mistake in domestic economy was ever made.

An Essential of Health.

Of all forms of exercise, walking is the best, because it acts on the whole body, and acts evenly. It is the best of doctors, for its sanitary influence is moral, as well as physical, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Everybody should be in the open air at least two hours daily, and if in ordinary health, should walk at least two miles daily—not a dull, rigid, constitutional walk, but a brisk, joyous, exhilarating walk, and if possible, a walk with an object. Be it understood that "shopping" is not walking, nor is "sauntering." You must use activity enough to send the blood faster through the veins, to bring a glow to the cheek, but you must stop short of actual fatigue. To realize the best results from walking, do not carry parcels, as crooking the arm impedes perfect circulation. If you

must bear something divide your burdens equally, and hold half in each hand, allowing the hands to fall at the sides, rather than be bent. This aids the beauty of the arm—of which we shall have more anon.

Worth Remembering.

A good rule to remember when one has costly rings and the habit of taking them off when the hands are washed, which, by the way, should always be done if one wishes to take the proper care of the stones, is always to place them between the lips, says a writer in the Criterion. If the habit is once formed it becomes second nature, and prevents adding another item to the column of loss, relating to rings left in hotels, strange dressing rooms and other places. Said a woman who has a magnificent collection of rings, and who has wisely exercised this habit since its inception: "I have never lost one or mislaid it, and, what is just as important, I have never been through all the worrying anxiety of believing I had lost some one or all of them." The woman whose fingers are clothed with flashy brilliants up to the joint may remonstrate that she had no room between her ruby lips, in which case there are two remedies, one, to enlarge the mouth, the other, to reduce the number of rings to that proportion which marks the woman of taste.

The Toilet of Greatness.

It is often said that Mme. Patti does not use water to wash her face. This is entirely a mistake. The day never passes that the diva does not use water liberally. Both she and Mme. Albini have a firm belief in rose cold cream. After washing they always rub their faces well with this cream; also before making up for the stage. The Princess of Wales, whose complexion is still exquisite, believes in massage for the face, and has distilled water sent every day for her toilet. The Empress Frederick puts faith in eau-de-cologne, of which a bottle is poured every morning into her bath. Another woman has another recipe for a good complexion that is the simplest of all: "Wash your face with hot water and a very mild soap just before going to bed, and wash it with cold rain water and no soap when you rise."

For the Complexion.

One hears of so many girls who complain of thick or spotty complexions, and in nine cases out of ten the trouble is quite easily removed. The very latest cure, and quite the simplest one to follow, is to wash the face with parsley water, says a recent authority. It is done in this way: Take half a pint of rain water and soak in it a large bunch of parsley, letting it remain in the water all night. In the morning rub the face well with dry towel, then dip your sponge in the parsley water, and pass it over your face, allowing it to dry on. Do this three times daily, and at the end of two weeks if you have persevered in the simple treatment, you will be rewarded to see that there are no more spots or roughness on your face. Many of the high-priced complexion nostrums contain this simple remedy, which is as inexpensive as it is effective.

SCIENTIFIC TOPICS.

CURRENT NOTES OF DISCOVERY AND INVENTION.

Pneumatic Rocking Chair—Spool on Wrist—Armor Plates—Forest and Prairie in Nebraska—Human Cancer and "Tree Canker."

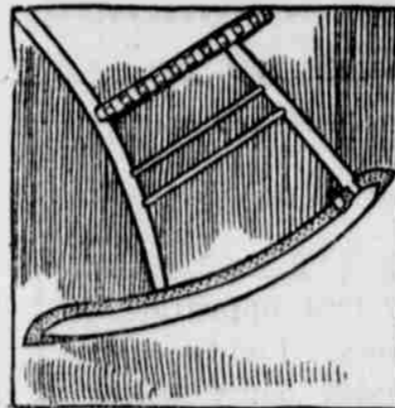
Armor Plates.
In an article in Nature on "Armor Plates," Mr. Hatfield says it was owing to the enterprise of the American, Harvey, that it was found possible to take soft steel plates and carbonize them by the cementation process, so that steel plates were obtained with faces, containing considerable percentages of carbon, up to 70 or 80 per cent, whilst the rear still retained its original soft and tough condition. Such a plate, after being treated and quenched in water, either wholly or on the hard side, then possessed a hard surface, against which a shot broke into fragments. Further improvements were introduced at Krupp's Essen works, carbonizing the surfaces by means of gas cementation instead of charcoal. The latest type of hard-faced plates possess about twice the resistance of the older type of plates. This enables a great saving to be effected in the weight of armor to be used for the protection of the modern warship.

Forest and Prairie in Nebraska.
In a paper in Science on recent changes in the extent of forest land on the Nebraska plains, Mr. Bessey brings forward evidence from eastern Nebraska which shows that tree areas are advancing there with some rapidity. His observations are supported by the statements of old settlers, who invariably tell of an advance of trees up the valleys, sometimes a mile or more, while the width of the timber belts on the streams has also greatly increased. The keeping out of fire seems to be the general cause of the spread of the trees. Two years ago the same author showed reasons for believing that the pines of western Nebraska are advancing eastward, where destruction by fire or cattle is prevented and where cutting does not proceed too rapidly.

Human Cancer and "Tree Canker."
M. Bra in the Comptes Rendus makes some remarkable observations on the analysis presented by the cultures of Nectria ditissima, the fungus which produces "canker" in trees, with those of the parasitic fungus which accompanies cancers in man and other animals. Inoculation of trees with cultures of the human parasite resulted in a "canker," in all respects resembling that produced by nectria, and conversely the ingestion by rabbits of cultures of nectria caused the production of round ulcers in the stomach, similar to those produced by the ingestion of cultures of the human parasite.

The Eclipse of the Sun
Nature says the Spanish government proposes to make the best possible arrangements at the Madrid observatory for the reception of foreign astronomers who will observe the eclipse of the sun on May 28. Nevertheless other places are better adapted for the purpose, as, for example, Naval-Moral, 200 kilometers from Madrid on the Caeres line, because at that place the eclipse will be total for two minutes.

Pneumatic Rocking Chair.
Pneumatic appliances now enter quite largely into our everyday life, the pneumatic bicycle and automobile tire being almost indispensable, while air brakes and invalid cushions are essential to our physical safety and comfort. Quite the latest application of an air cushion, however, is for the rockers of the usual rocking chair. What resembles a section of a bicycle tire, with conical ends resting in sockets provided therefor in the wooden framework, is placed under each rocker, and upon these cushions or tires the weight of the person in the chair rests. The cushion may be inflated to any degree of hardness agreeable to the occupant of the chair, by the familiar hand or foot pump and valve.



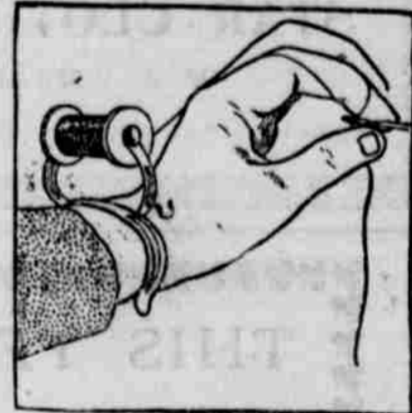
They have the advantage of being noiseless, of having a smooth, even motion, and have no appreciable wear and tear on the carpet or rugs. Even on a stained hardwood floor they can be used without so much as scratching it and without a particle of noise. It is asserted the restfulness of a pneumatic rocking chair as much greater than that of the ordinary form, and that the energy required to rock it is decidedly less.

French Researches in Agriculture.
In a paper to the Academie des Sciences, Paris, MM. Deherain and Demoussy state that the white lupin, which flourishes above all in sandy soils, can be grown in chalky soils if provided bacteria form nodosities on its roots. M. Moissans, the French

chemist, says he can make ammonia from the nitrogen in the atmosphere for the use of agriculturists. Heat unites calcium with nitrogen, forming calcium nitride, which in water yields ammonia and calcium hydrate. M. Richard of Avignon finds that a granular watered with a solution of butyric alcohol becomes feeble, drowsy and apparently intoxicated.

Rejuvenescence in Ferns.
In an article in the Botanische Centralblatt, Herr Heinricher says that in a species of fern (Cystopteris bulbifera) there are produced, in addition to the ordinary adventitious buds, certain "regenerating buds," which have a strong faculty of rejuvenescence. These do not, like the ordinary adventitious buds, give rise to fleshy scales, containing food reserves, but produce at once assimilating leaves.

Spool on Wrist.
A spool supporting bracelet, recently patented, is designed to prevent the cotton, silk, thread, yarn, etc., used for crocheting, embroidering, knitting and similar purposes from rolling away or becoming entangled while in use, which often happens, causing great inconvenience and annoyance to the knitter. As shown, it is made out of a single piece of metal, which has sufficient spring in it to hold it comfortably tight on the wrist. Part of this metal is cut out and bent upward to form the support for the spool, the ends being finished with two metallic or hard rubber balls, the better to per-



mit the spool to revolve on them. The little hooks cut out of these supporting arms are provided for the express purpose of suspending the work, by placing the last loops on them. In crocheting work, thus preventing possible unraveling of any stitches when the work is laid aside. This ingenious device is the invention of a Washington (D. C.) man. The thread when in use passes over the back of the hand between the knuckles of the first and second fingers, and extends around the index finger once or twice to give the proper tension toward the crocheting needle ready for work.

How to Fry.
A cook should always have two frying pans, and a third not much bigger than a large plate, for omelets, fritters and the like. The pans should be kept very clean, and the butter dripping, lard or oil must be boiling hot before the meat or fish or vegetable is put in the pan. Mutton chops, plain, do not require any fat in the pan with them—they have enough in themselves—but they must be turned and moved about to prevent them from burning. Always season the chop with a little pepper before putting it in the pan. Lamb cutlets and lamb chops must be egged and bread-crumbed twice to look well. Steak should be cut three-quarters of an inch thick and should be peppered but not salted, as that makes it hard. Salt is reserved until after the cooking. Fish must be well dried before frying, in a cloth well sprinkled with flour. Then an egg should be brushed over it, with a sprinkling of finely grated bread or cracker crumbs. The fat should be boiling when the fish is put in and there should be enough of it to cover. In kitchens where strict economy is demanded, it is usual when liver and bacon are to be served to fry the bacon first, which will leave enough fat in the pan for the liver to be put in without other fat.

An Aerial Steamship.
Major B. Baden-Powell writes to the London Times, describing a visit he recently paid to Germany to the "dock-yard" where an aerial steamship of vast size is in actual course of construction. We have all read so much about such contrivances in the pages of Jules Verne and his hundred of plagiarists that we are not too ready to believe in the realization of such a dream. But here we have the evidence of an eye-witness that the ship is actually on the stocks, and is to cost when finished about \$350,000. It is made of aluminum, and has the appearance of an enormous birdcage. Upon this framework an outer skin is to be stretched, and in the inclosed space a number of balloons are to furnish the rising power. The total lifting capacity will be ten tons, and in a gallery beneath will be the engines to propel the monster through the air at an estimated speed of twenty-two miles per hour.

Science and Esthetics.
In an article in the Archiv fuer Systematische Philosophie, entitled "Beitrag zur Aesthetik," Max Desoer says there is a complex and ramifying interconnection of science and art. The historical sciences of life and mind contain a large admixture of art. Much that is properly scientific enters into poetic construction, especially of the romantic order. Logical motives and processes play a prominent part in the origin of the plastic arts. Even at the present day thought of a scientific character plays a larger part in works of art than is desirable from the purely artistic point of view.

A MAN'S PLAINT.

Clothes That Are Injured by Contact with Sofa Pillows.

"Kindly remove the sofa cushion," said the man, languidly, as he sat down on the couch beside the woman. "The last time I was in its immediate vicinity it behaved very badly, indeed, filling my coat with a soft, cottony fuzz that it took two hours of good, hard brushing to remove, so I've determined to have nothing more to do with it. D'ye know I'm getting so that I don't feel at all like putting on my good clothes when I go to call on women nowadays; all on account of these villain pillows, which are everywhere, and which seem to be filled with tiny, fluffy feathers that escape and cling to one with glue-like persistency? That reminds me to remark that on account of one of Eve's fairest daughters my dress suit is now reposing at the cleaner's. No, she didn't spill a plate of ice cream on me, nor did she do anything awkward of that sort; all she did was to use in my presence of those absurd fans made of ostrich feathers that some women affect. It was a pink fan, and, candidly, I think it was a little moth-eaten, but at any rate she's a nice girl and I like her, so I was a good deal with her at the german. Gradually I noticed that the fan seemed to be losing plumpness and I seemed to be gaining it. When I was a fine fuff almost from my head to heels I went up to the dressing room and got the man to brush me off, but as the needle to the pole those feathers were to me. Back they'd come merrily as soon as he'd cease agitating them, and settle even on my hair and in my mouth. A thousand kind friends came up to me during the evening and told me how funny I looked, and the owner of the fan herself laughed a bit, but, frankly speaking, I wasn't amused. I sent the suit to the cleaner the next day, and I hope he'll be able successfully to pluck it. I don't mind finding on coming home from a dance that my sleeves are whitened by contact with sundry fair arms or that some powdery substance decorates my lapels, but I draw the line at feathers, hence—take away the cushion; I'll have none of it, an' if my Tuxedo gets full of them I'll have to retire to private life for an indefinite space."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

A TIP ABOUT USING STAMPS.

Something Which a Great Many People Do Not Know.

"Wait until I have washed off the postage stamp on this envelope, spoiled in the addressing," said a man, according to the Washington Star. "It is not necessary to do that," said a lawyer. "You may take your scissors and cut out the adhesive stamp and stick it fast to your new envelope with mucilage, notwithstanding the adhering piece of the old envelope. It does not look nice and may become detached in the mail, but if the stamp is a genuine, unused adhesive stamp it is not questioned. The government, when it sells an adhesive 2-cent stamp, undertakes for such consideration to transport and deliver to destination the letter to which it is affixed. The fact that it has with it a piece of envelope to which it was formerly attached, does not relieve the government from executing its part of the contract when the letter is deposited for mailing, the stamp being otherwise perfect."

"Gossals" of the Scots.

Sandy McTush was very fond of boasting—with more or less truth and a good deal of pride—about the antiquity of the Gaelic tribes. He was seldom disturbed in his harmless amusement, but on one occasion a wag of an Englishman ventured to pull him up short. "Look here, Sandy," said the trifier, "I'm not disputing a bit of what you say, but it doesn't go very far, after all, you know. I don't remember coming across a single word about any bra son o' Caledonia either in the old testament or the new!" Sandy's look of scorn and pity was beyond describing, but his answer settled that little argument once and for ever. "Why, ye egnorant son o' perdition, I'm no for a meenit thinkin' that efter ye cam' across anything in the hally beuk, but has it no yet been digged intae your muckle thick held hoo Scot an' Lot gaed together in the auld time?"—Ally Elopier.

Force of Habit.

"May you take this lesson home with you tonight, dear friends," continued the preacher at the end of a very long and wearisome sermon. "And may its spiritual truths sink deep into your hearts and lives to the end that your souls may experience salvation. We will now bow our heads in prayer. Deacon White, will you lead?" There was no response. "Deacon White," this time in a louder voice. "Deacon White, will you lead?" Still no response. It was evident that the good deacon was slumbering. The preacher made a third appeal and raised his voice to a pitch that succeeded in waking up the drowsy man. "Deacon White, will you please lead?" The deacon rubbed his eyes and opened them wondering. "Is it my lead? No—I just dealt."

A Novel Fence.

It is said that in Yellowstone park there is a fence which is composed entirely of the horns of the elk, and includes over three hundred selected specimens. None of them has less than twelve and very many have fourteen points. They were gathered in June, 1895, by a party of gentlemen who found them during a four days' hunt, all of them within a radius of ten miles of the Mammoth Hot Springs. Yellowstone Park contains nearly three thousand elk. They shed their horns in March, and during this time are very shy and quiet.