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**A TRUE BEAR STORY.**

Two Men Struggle Death in Blankets and Get the Best of Him.



driving home through a piece of woods in Lehigh township, their horses pricked up their ears and stopped suddenly at something in the road ahead of them. The dim light of the new moon revealed the outlines of a dark object, but the men could not tell what it was, and so Houck jumped out of the sleigh and ran ahead. As he got in front of the team Houck saw what he took to be a boy standing in the middle of the highway, and he walked slowly toward him and was about to ask him what he was doing there all alone, when a low grunt from the object stopped him. Houck then saw that instead of a boy a large bear, standing upright on its haunches, was what the horses stuck up their ears at.

Thinking that he could easily scare the bear out of the road, Houck pulled the mitten from his big right hand, dashed up to the bear and gave it a smart slap on the side of the head with the flat of his hand. No sooner had he done this, Houck said, than the bear plunged at him and almost dived him before he had a chance to realize that he had aroused the animal's anger. Quickly recovering himself, Houck dealt the bear another stinging blow on the head, and then there was such a roaring and snarling around there that Rogers, who had remained in the sleigh, knew what kind of a creature Houck had run foul of. Again the bear sprang at Houck and knocked him down in the snow, but before the furious beast could trample on him he got on his feet again.

Seeing the bear was a fighter of the first order, Houck hung off his muffer and overcoat and went at him in earnest, giving it three or four lively thumps on the nose. Instead of turning tail at this sort of treatment, the raging animal tackled Houck savagely, striking him in the face with one of his big claws, and making his nose bleed freely. Houck then saw that the bear was too much for him, and so he ran toward the sleigh, the bear following close at his heels.



Rogers saw the maddened animal thrashing through the snow, and he rushed in front of it and threw a big horse blanket over its head. That stopped the bear's wild dash for a moment, but it soon shook the blanket off, and then it made for Rogers, gnashing its teeth and bellowing till the woods rang. By the time the bear had pawed and shaken the blanket from its head, Rogers had rushed to the sleigh and got the other blanket, and the moment the bear lunged toward him again, he threw the blanket over its head, falling on the bear at the instant and seizing it around the neck.

The bear struggled terribly to free itself, but Rogers hung on like a good fellow, at the same time telling Houck to get the other blanket. Before Houck could assist him the murderous beast rose up on its haunches and threw Rogers several feet away. The bear then floundered and pawed and kicked and jumped till it had got its head free again, when it tried to renew the attack, its rage being frightful to witness.

Then they quickly placed the blankets together, making a double thickness of them. Then each grabbed an end of the double blanket, and, when the infuriated bear plunged at them again, they flung it over its head, rushed upon the bear as they did so, and falling upon it with all their weight, thus forcing the bear to the ground.

Once or twice the powerful animal lifted both of them off their feet, but they kept the blankets over its head by clinging to its neck with their muscular arms. They soon downed the struggling brute, however, but he didn't stay down long. At this stage of the fight he rose upon his haunches with a spring, lunged forward and struck on his fore feet, and then sprang up again and flung himself to one side.

The men still hung to the bear's neck for dear life, believing that they would be able to smother and choke him to death in the course of a few minutes more. The bear was apparently partially exhausted, for it lay still a short time, and then it roared up and floundered about, but the men soon floored him once more. After another rest of a few seconds the bear made a desperate attempt to get rid of the two strong men, but they had rested, too, and they locked their fingers together under his throat and kept on top of him as he struggled and swung them this way and that.



When the bear became quiet for an instant the two men got a grip on his gullet with both hands. Then he made another desperate struggle to get loose, but they had him completely in their power, and they soon choked the life out of him. Both Rogers and Houck were pretty well tuckered out when they loosened their holds on the limp and lifeless bear, and they said that, if it had not been for the blankets, the bear would in all probability have killed both of them. When they got home that night they found that the carcass of the murderous brute weighed 250 pounds, and before noon of the next day the people of the entire settlement were talking about the terrific fight that the two plucky farmers had had with the maddened bear.

**WHAT SHALL WE WEAR ?**

STYLES IN JACKETS IMPORTED FOR EARLY SPRING DAYS.

Hints in regard to the New Millinery. Novelties in Bracelets—French Models That Illustrate New and Graceful Modes of Dressing the Hair.

We present in the first cut here shown a front and back view of a new French morning coiffure.



FRONT AND BACK VIEW OF MORNING COIFFURE.

The front hair is frizzed and curled and ornamented with a tortoise shell hair pin, decorated with a gold top. At the back a long Diana loop made of a strand of hair is twisted into various turns, according to the illustration (see back view). These leave the nape of the neck without ornamentation.



FRONT AND BACK VIEW RECEPTION COIFFURE.

In the second cut is shown a Paris reception coiffure. As will be seen an ornamental band crosses the top of the head, and the front hair is frizzed and curled. The back hair is arranged in three Diana loops fastened with decorative pins of the same material as the bandeau. The lowest loop falls as a catogan.

**Ball and Evening Dresses.**

At this season there are not very many new features in ball gown bodices. The drapery which has a corner caught up to one shoulder, a la Grecque, still finds favor, and is made either of some soft transparent crepe, through which the bodice is seen, or of embroidered jet, which clings closely to the figure. Picturesque ideas like these, that are not carried out in too prominent a fashion, are always welcome as relieving a ball room from the monotony of design, more or less apparent, when two or three people decide what hundreds shall wear. For low bodices a pretty trimming is to have the left side completely covered with soft drapery like a succession of half circles, while coming from the right is an arrangement of long loops of ribbon, flowers, lace or passementerie, which frequently descends to the edge of the skirt. With bodices that have a long, narrow V cut out back and front, a tiny, delicately gathered chemise is often worn. This can be made in white lisse or crepe, or in some pale shade corresponding with the rest of the dress. Pretty bebe puffed sleeves will be sometimes worn to match the chemise, either terminating in a broad band of velvet on the arm or tied with moire ribbons. A few French low bodices have laps of silk turning outward, back and front, from the neck in V shape. This style makes a somewhat hard outline, but to many faces it proves becoming. Sleeves do not seem gaining in favor for the strictly fashionable ball gown—in fact, they are chiefly remarkable for their absence. At the same time there are many beautiful absolutely high dresses worn, and in these days of solid head embroidery, procurable in almost any shade, it is easy to have all the warmth necessary without the slightly stiff appearance that a bodice has when made to the throat entirely of one material.

**Cloth Jackets for Spring.**

Cloth jackets imported for early spring days, says Harper's Bazaar, are of plain, plaid or striped cloths, in higher colors than are usually chosen for wraps. The stylish coats of smooth faced cloths for dressy occasions come in copper colors, in the new green shades, in tobacco browns, Suede color, the odd blues with green tints, and in bright red shades, while the rougher homespun jackets are in stripes or bars or melanges of two or three of these colors together. The new shapes are quite short and are single breasted; the fronts are closely fitted, and many have vests of contrasting color made of cloth or else of pique; the edges are stitched or bound, and the linings are of striped, checked or changeable surah. Braiding has by no means had its day of favor as a trimming on jackets, and is done with both metal and mohair braids, some of which are flat and others tubular, while the twisted cords of silk or of metal are used in all the most elaborate designs hitherto done only in soutache braid. A jacket that may be worn with half a dozen different dresses is a useful garment in a spring and summer outfit, and it is now an easy matter to choose such a garment, since the cloths and homespuns are so varied in color; thus a copper colored or Suede cloth jacket is worn by young ladies not only with a gown of the same color, but with blue, green or brown dresses, or with a gown of black lace, while coats of bluish gray or of drab cloth are worn by older ladies with gray, brown or black dresses.

**Suggestions About Bodice and Drapery.**

This season the richer materials in the darker shades will form the bodice and drapery of the dress, while the skirt will be in the paler color. Here is an instance, a lovely mouse velvet made into a low bodice and drapery, over a delicate shrimp colored silk, with a deep pinked out ruche at the foot; the drapery, lined with shrimp, is caught up high, and the front of the bodice is shrimp silk gathered very fully with mouse velvet ribbon, tied across it from side to side. This design can of course be carried out in many contrasts of color, and looks particularly well when the velvet used is gray, and the skirt a rich shade of yellow, and makes a wonderfully pretty dinner gown. There is a beautiful shade of gray green which will be worn much and combines with yellow well.

**Some of the New Bracelets.**

While some of the new bracelets are very light and delicate in construction, the tendency is to heavier and more solid workmanship in these ornaments. The gold curb chain bracelet is a popular sort. A bracelet out for the holidays was formed of two strands of gold roped in the center, so as to present the figure 88. A striking ornament seen consisted of a bracelet composed of gold horseshoes united by little chains, the nails in the shoes being represented by small brilliants.

**ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.**

**A Delight Fancy in Furniture—Newest Shapes in Silverware—Lenten Dishes.**

White and gold furniture being a fancy of the day, one or two articles in this style have a good effect in a room, beside furnishing a convenient way of transforming old things into new.

An old mirror that has been set aside on account of a worn frame may, with white paint, varnish and stripes of gold paint, be converted into a handsome piece of furniture; for all of the furnishings of the house the mirror stands at the head as the most beautiful when framed in white and gold.

An old fashioned light stand painted white, with bands of gold, with a white felt scarf thrown over it, the ends embroidered with golden rods or daisies, is a pretty addition to any room.

A willow chair or rocker that has grown dark may be made beautiful by painting in white and gold, upholstering the seat and arms in myrtle green plush, running myrtle green satin ribbon through the space around or across the back, and fastening at the right hand corner in a broad bow. The back may have a round or square cushion of the same shade of plush, or need not have any.

A common cane seat chair painted in white and gold, upholstered in peacock blue, with a bow of the same shade of ribbon tied at the upper right hand corner of the back, is very pretty.

**Styles in Silver Tableware.**

The beauty and rarity of wares shown in all articles of silver and in silver and glass combined, for use and artistic decoration on the table, is more remarkable this season than ever.

One of the most exquisite styles in a tea or coffee set ever brought out is, according to Decorator and Furnisher, a fine quilted satin finish, with fluted top and burnished bands, and it is having immense success. Engraved figures on satin finish look like silver brocade on a ground of frosted work. There are half a score of models, after which new designs are made.

A style in fluted surface with the lines running in a sweeping curve from top to bottom of the vessel is very pretty, as well as that which shows perpendicular flutings in melon shape. Indeed the round, plump, necky melon has been the model for some of the best designs of the season.

Spoon holders are shown in goblet shape and in the melon shape just described. A new style is a flat tray with nearly straight sides and handles. Others are tall, with arched handles and elaborately ornamented sides and bodies.

Syrup cups are in tall slender forms, regular pitcher shapes and in the melon pattern. Some butter dishes set very low upon the table, others, rest upon the standard, and there are those that are suspended midway in an arch of decorated and filigree metal.

Orange bowls are of cut glass, the frame and stand of silver.



GLASS AND SILVERWARE.

Berry dishes are wider and more shallow than the orange bowls, but are otherwise similar and mounted in very much the same fashion. Some of them have bowls of engraved glass, others of fluted or cut glass. Many of the bowls are of colored glass, either cut, engraved or decorated. Low flat dishes are popular, although some of the newest patterns have balls that are made of a wide band of metal, and decorated in most elaborate style.

Egg stands are popular. They are in several forms, somewhat like a large caster, but have standards for the egg cups where the caster bottles are placed. A small bracket holds the spoon and the stand is ordinarily passed for each member of the family to take cup and spoon.

Toast racks are among the breakfast conveniences. They are in various sizes and will hold from six to twelve slices of toast.

Beside other novelties, the authority mentioned states that salad casters are coming into general use. They have two bottles, one for oil and one for vinegar, and some have pepper and salt bottles.

In cake baskets the latest patterns are somewhat in tray shape with straight sides, corners almost square, and wide, decorated handles.

The cut here given represents a double preserve stand of cut glass in a silver frame, a richly chased claret jug and a silver toast rack.

**Recipes for the Lenten Season.**

Among dishes suitable for the lenten season a correspondent of good housekeeping gives the following:

Milk soups are also very agreeable, and can be made with potatoes, rice, sago, tapioca, vermicelli, etc. Boil one quart of milk, season with very little salt and sugar, and thicken with one teaspoonful of corn starch. When serving, pour over blocks of fried bread. Two yolks of eggs added improves the soup greatly. One-half cupful of rice or one-quarter cupful of sago boiled in a quart of milk makes rice or sago soup. A little sugar must be added and yolks if liked.

Canned Lobster.—Cut in small pieces, lay in pudding dish, pour over it bechamel or white sauce made of milk, cooked quite thick. Grate over it one-quarter pound cheese—parmesan is best—and bake until brown.

Hard boiled eggs with cream sauce poured over them is another dish easily prepared, also served cold with mayonnaise, to which you have added one teaspoonful of French mustard.

German pan cakes made of two large wooden spoonfuls of flour, four eggs, and made to a thin batter with milk, and baked with plenty of butter, in a pan, are nice. For variety spread with jelly, jam or apple sauce, and roll.

**Cream Whipped Solid Without Waste.**

Catherine Owen tells that the only way to whip cream solid without one teaspoonful of waste is to have it at least twenty-four hours old and thoroughly chilled; then to beat it steadily without taking the beater out till it is as solid as the white of egg. This usually happens in ten minutes with a pint of cream, but if the kitchen is warm and it does not "come" in that time, it is often an economy of time to set it in the ice, just as it is, to get chilled again. There is no occasion to remove the froth as it rises; the whip will be finer and firmer without.

**Hints Here and There.**

Always wash glassware by itself.

Clean piano keys with a little alcohol.

A soapstone griddle is the best for baking cakes.

A sunny kitchen window is the best for plants.

Rub rough flat iron on a board sprinkled with fine salt.

Pure white damask is the first choice in dinner cloths.

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