

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT.

Notes of Fashion.

The new color rhododendron, is very beautiful.

White silk ties distinguish new dress bonnets, and white mull or chiffon strings are worn with fete hats.

Open work effects in cut velvet are a notable feature of the season's garnitures, resembling rich designs in applique.

The Josephine chignon bound round with the diamond tiara or reviere is now considered an elegant coiffure for evening.

Pongee or mohair dusters have had their day. If you would be well by a 810 traveling gown and cover it with a 210 traveling cloak of rich brocade.

"The color of the sun of gold and of corn," as a noted writer has christened the popular tint of yellow. Gowns of this shade, plain or veiled with lace were never more becoming, and in brocade they are sumptuous as court dresses.

Blouses are no longer left plain and full and black, dependant upon the faithfulness of the belt for their neatness. A "waistcoat back" is the latest copied from the man's waistcoat. The same little strap and buckle draws the fullness back and holds it surely in place.

Long loose mantles like those our grandmothers wore are for dinner and theater parties. They are made of sicilienne or faille, with yokes of pearls or imitation gems. A dark red sicilienne shirred around a heart shaped yoke has a jet yoke with a fringe of fine jet beads falling below the waist.

Ethel Chase Sprague, daughter of Kate Sprague, is said by a correspondent to be one of the most dashing and fearless horse-women in the country. She rides a big bay horse named Star, the gift of Senator Fair, and personally superintends the care of her favorite in the stable. Miss Sprague has been familiar with horses for years, and has passed a good portion of her life in the saddle. She learned to ride when only 5 years old, when her father made her a present of a Shetland pony.

Among novel things in jewels is a ring now the delight of the Parisienne's heart, composed of the mystic number of seven fine gold wires, each encrusted with either diamond dust or emeralds, sapphires, rubies, etc. The wires are then twisted together in a band. Another bit of precious adornment without which life is a failure to the Frenchwoman of fashion is a long gold chain three or four yards in length, strung at intervals with large pearls, twisted about her neck and caught up on one side of the corsage. Gold chatelains are almost as common with Parisian ladies as are the silver ones in this city. The French elegant at the races without her gold tablets, pencil and purse attached by golden chains to her girdle is an unhappy and desolate creature. French watches take now the form and coloring of a flower. A beaut. fully enamelled pansy diamond edged, pinned with a single large diamond at the left of a lady's bodice, just above the bust, has a time piece beneath its petals.

Handsomeness of magnolia-white cloth which always looks rich and tasteful on every occasion are made with vests of white silk-ocd embroidery applied directly to the dress front.

The latest chemises are cut en cour which is rounder than en cour and all ornamented with lace and open work insertion.

The novelty in millinery silks up to the present is shaded velvet and satin antique. Among the noticeable combinations are mouse green and pink with dull gray.

Boots and shoes have round or square toes—the pointed ones are supposed to have gone out—but I think they are certainly the most stylish looking; the others make the feet look too large.

A very novel hat is of leghorn with a peculiar garniture on the inside of the brim of rows of striped ribbon in cream blue and brown, which is also used at the front and back in large loops.

Corn-yellow India muslins and French batiste dresses are garniture white Irish point embroideries, and Spanish yellow and pink China silks and bengalines with Venetian lace flounces, bertinas and Valois sleeves.

Some of the newest veils being worn at this moment are the clear Russian nets with the skeleton plush spots. Many people are giving up the unbecoming plan of wearing veils reaching to the chin and have fallen back on the old one of letting them end just below the mouth.

Capotes are a legion in length and style. They are sure to be full over the shoulders, long and with flared collars. The back may fit to the figure or hang loosely. A yoke effect is correct; so is the contrary. Feather trimmings are especially pretty on these wraps and silk lining give the air of well finished garment.

The present shapes will be retained as regards many of the fall hats, but there will undoubtedly be importations of the very small shapes, such as there is a great effort to bring in, and which have been seen on stylish persons, although their use is far from general the time seeming to run rather toward a moderately small toque, capote or similar shape.

PRETTY PLUMAGE.

WHAT THE STYLES ARE IN CLOAKS AND GOWNS.

A Charming Circular, and a Sensible Post-Mantle—All sorts of Hats, and their Trimmings—Something in the Way of Fans—A Delicate Bathing Suit.

Who does not admire the rare combination of a fair lather encased in a pretty bathing suit? Simple shapes are always the best for swimming and bathing costumes; as such we recommend bodice and trousers in one piece, but

this can be beautified by the addition of a loose jacket with short sleeves. Red or blue serge is decidedly the most useful material.

The lovely Bosnian linen, which has already found much favor, has of late been made unbleached in a beautiful delicate ecru color. Besides the useful stripes we have now checks formed sometimes with merely a thicker thread or with colored threads.

Although high art, or, as some people call it, "fancy" furniture, is certainly the order of the day, the general idea is that such is more suitable for the ladies boudoir than the drawing room. A charming lounge is made of wood, gilded bright and dull, and the sofa is upholstered with pale yellow satin, with hand embroidered cornflowers and rose buds.

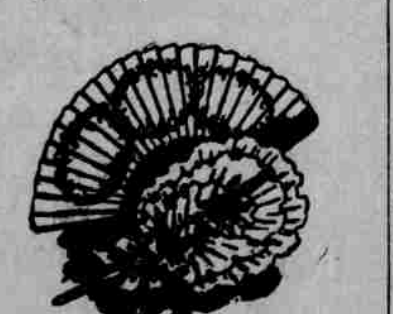
The plain circular, which amply covers the dress, is again chosen as the shape for dust cloaks. One very pretty one is made of pale strawberry colored alpaca with cream colored stripes. A small collar goes over the several rows of gathering at the neck. The becoming hat worn with this useful mantle is white straw trimmed with white ribbon with black spots, made into a high bow in front.

Sleeves are again frequently trimmed with cuffs, such as were so much worn some years ago. Real lace and very good imitation alike share general approval with plain linen cuffs edged with narrow lace. But in the first instance the cuffs must match the remainder of the lace trimming, while the linen ones are of course part of the set of collar and cuffs.

Dust mantles this year are, sensibly enough, made both of useful material, and in colors not likely to suffer under the sun's rays. The newest model is yellowish gray alpaca made with very fine pleats in front and belt at waist. Long accordion pleated sleeves cover or replace other tight ones.

It is interesting to note the influence that new inventions and ideas exercise on the sphere of needle work, without any intention of a conscious imitation. At present colored Swedish embroidery is quite the rage, the long easily done stitches and characteristic patterns being quite in harmony with modern taste.

Summer demands especial fans, simpler and less ornamental than those under whose shelter bright eyes cast their captivated glances around the evening salon. Summer fans are large and light colored. The frames are made of plain wood; the cover of crape.



Young ladies of artistic talent can exercise their taste in painting their fans in floral or figure design. The parasol fan is coming into use as novelty. It is easier to hold than a parasol, and a good shade from the sun's ray. These fans are chiefly made of green gauze; sometimes even of paper; they can be ornamented with either birds or ribbon bows.

We have lately seen large round baskets made of coarse cane work and lined with chamois and provided with several large pockets as receptacles for all sorts of pieces of stuff. Above these larger ones came a row of small pockets intended to hold cotton, silk, needles, in fact, all working requisites. And in the middle of the capacious basket was ample space for the things to be repaired—stockings, underlines, etc. So that the whole mending apparatus came together. The outside of the basket may be tastefully trimmed with remnants of silk or velvet, and any fringe left from articles or valances.

Among the number of hats and bonnets made in straw, chip, and horsehair, those made of toile and lace must by no means be forgotten, for they serve for summer and autumn wear and various occasions. Not are bonnets alone made of the above named materials; on the contrary, large round toile hats are exceedingly pretty and capable of being charmingly trimmed. The brims, which are wide in front, narrow behind, and not unfrequently a little bent are almost covered by the garlands of large flowers, chrysanthemums, foliage, etc., intermixed with finely plumed lace; or the low crown is raised by an elegant arrangement of tuiled lace and flowers.

Dress lengths with interwoven trimming, and arranged for sale in cardboard boxes are as much in favor this as any previous season, and not without reason, for the lovely modern colors and designs are charmingly carried out. We notice, too, that the Eiffel pattern is still much liked, executed both in woven guipure work, or in the thick embroidery on the dress skirt. Flowered borders and designs done in fine colored thread and finished off with openwork edging are another charming novelty. Some dresses are a sort of canvas or ecru batiste, with broad bars or red trimming stripes, on which the embroidery is continued. Another pretty idea is the repetition of the pattern on the stuff in greatly diminished size for the trimming borders. Bright colored, very closely worked "mental times, are also quite new.

Brooms. With a little care brooms can be kept equal to new for a long time; as with everything else, they must be well treated to do their work.

Always scald a new broom before it has ever been used. Pour boiling water all over the broom where it is attached to the handle; then stand the broom up to dry, with the end of the handle resting on the floor and the straws uppermost. This treatment renders the broom soft and pliable, making it wear better.

When a broom is not in use never stand it with the straws next the floor, for it tends to make the broom one sided and spoils its shape. Rather stand the broom so it will rest on the end of the handle, with the straws lightly leaning against the wall; or, better still, pierce a hole through the top of the broom handle with a red hot nail, run a strong string through the hole and tie it in a loop to hang the broom up by.

Then see that the broom is always hung up clear of the floor when it is put away.

If, after a time, the broom begins to grow brittle again, subject it to the same treatment as at first, and it will again become pliable. Or it is a good plan to put the broom into the hot suds in the boiler on washing day, after the clothes are removed, and leave it a few moments to soak; then shake it out thoroughly, and stand it up to dry. This will not only render the straws more pliable, but will cleanse the broom from lint or other dirt in the inside of it.

To restore a worn broom (Fig. 1), soak it thoroughly in scalding water, and be sure that every straw is well scalded; then shake out the broom, and while it is wet bend it in its proper form, so that all the straws will lie straight and even. This done, fasten a cloth band around the broom to keep it in shape until it has completely dried (Fig. 2). Next remove the band, and with a large pair of scissors clip the long uneven straws on the edge, and you will be surprised at the improved appearance of the broom (Fig. 3).

If these suggestions are faithfully carried out, brooms will wear better, last longer, sweep cleaner, and in every way prove far more satisfactory.

A Case of Necessity.



Patron—What's the use of an old fossil like that taking boxing lessons? Instructor—That's the Hon. Elihu Graes, Congressman from the Waynago district. He expects the next session is going to be one of the liveliest on record, and he wants to be able to hold his own. —Puck.

The Second Edition.



Editor Western Sun—Had yer dinner, like? Pressman—Yaps! Editor—Well, then, insert "Second Edition" somewhere about the head of the first page, and let her jam. —Puck, N.Y.

Character in Bating

There are few things by which character is more unmistakably portrayed than by a man's choice of food and the manner in which he devours it. In his preferences for coarse or delicate edibles, or lack of preference for any—in the deliberate savorer or voracious quickness with which he consumes them—traits of character otherwise hidden are revealed. The dinners of a people are an infallible index of the national life. It has been justly said that there is a whole geological cycle of progressive civilization between the clammy dough out of which a statuette might be molded and the brittle films that melt upon the tongue like flakes of inkewarnu snow.

In England one of the tests by which the various parties in the state church are unerringly distinguished is the test convivial. For example, it is said that some years ago a clergyman in that country went to a hotel to order a dinner for a number of clerical friends. "May I ask, sir," said the waiter gravely, "whether the party is high church or low church?" "Now, what one earth," cried the clergyman, "do my friends' opinions matter to you?" "A great deal, sir," rejoined the waiter. "If high church, I must provide more wine; if low church, more wittles."—Professor William Matthews in Boston Traveler.

The Scent of Flowers

In popular conception, the soul of the flower resides in its perfume. But certain loveliest flower souls sometimes exercise singular repellences for individuals of the human family. There have been those even who could not endure the fragrance of the rose. To my knowledge one observer, finds in the scent of lilacs an unpleasant reminder of the odor of escaping gas. Another makes no distinction between the breath of mignonette and the smell of fresh cornmeal. To me the scent of the thistle is identical with that of the bumblebee sprawling luxuriously among its purple filaments, and the first time the delicate, feathery flowers of the beach plum brought me, surely their odor was the same I had noted in downy chicks and nestling birds.

Besides the gratification which flowers provide for the sense of sight and the sense of smell, there is another and quite distinct pleasure—that which is conveyed in the contact of a flower; as in a subtle spray of lilacs brushing against your face, the dabbling touches of the snowball, the tender coolness of apple blossoms dashed with rain, the refined sleekness of the lily, which gave an old time poet countenance in describing his lady's hand; so white, so soft it was, "as it had worn a lily for a glove." A rather tactile differential on is to be found in the warm, vital and airy touch of the rose (so unlike the quality of the lily petals), in the viscid stickiness of the poppy and the petunia in the tinsy thinness and dryness of the larkspur blossom.—Edith M. Thomas in Atlantic.

Earthworms and Salt Water

A very important fact in the economy of earthworms is their susceptibility to salt water; they are for the most part soon killed by an immersion in salt water, and it appears that their eggs are also incapable of withstanding its influence for a prolonged period. However, the eggs are not deposited singly, but are enclosed in large numbers in an egg case of a leathery consistency, which may be, for a time at least, impermeable to sea water. It is therefore just conceivable that the cocoons might cross in safety a narrow sea enclosed in a ball of earth upon the root of a floating tree.

But it seems certain that a very long time does not elapse before the egg in the cocoon are fatally injured by the sea-water. The only exception at present known is an earthworm which is found in heaps of cast up seaweed on the seashores of the Mediterranean and North sea.—Chambers' Journal.

The Lucky Nine.

The figure 9 is curiously and intimately connected with all the great gold mining excitements of the nineteenth century. The great Algerian gold bubble formed and broke in 1859. Next came the Montazun mountain-craze in 1839, when solid boulders of gold as large as flour barrels were reported. The California gold fever broke out in 1849 and raged until counteracted by the Pike's Peak boom in 1859. Ten years later in 1869, "Old Virginny," the celebrated miner, struck the lucky lead which made Virginia City and Nevada famous in the mining annals of the world. Eighteen hundred and seventy nine came in on time with the Leadville frenzy and the famous "car bonates" of Lake county, Colorado. Eighteen hundred and eighty-nine broke the charm, but 1899 may make up for lost time, there being two 9s in that date.

Knowledge Wine.

Two farmers recently laid a wager that one could hold a wasp longer in his hand than the other. The man who rubbed chloroform on his hands expected to win, but the other happened to know that male wasps do not sting, and accordingly got one of that sex. They sat and smiled at each other, while the crowd wondered, until the chloroform evaporated, and then the man who used it suddenly let go his wasp. The other man got the money.—London Tit-Bits.

A Witness Who Knew Too Much

Witnesses are often too much for the lawyers slyed Senator Frank McGowan yesterday. I was once employed to defend a case up in Humboldt county. After examining into the merits of the question I decided to attack the character of the plaintiff, who was a most vulnerable man. As a result I found any number of witnesses willing to testify, but the evidence of one particular man was needed to clinch the case. I went to him and told him I wanted to have him subpoenaed. He acknowledged that he was familiar with the plaintiff's record, but objected to appear in court as a witness, saying that it would injure his business. Deaf to his appeal I had him subpoenaed, and when he was called to the stand I fancied my case was as good as won. Mind you, I had already produced a great array of evidence to prove that the man was a perfect moral obliquity and I smiled confidently. As my last witness took his seat I said, looking him squarely in the eye, You know the witness, do you not?

"Yes sir."

"What is his character in the community, so far as you know?"

The witness eyed the ceiling thoughtfully for a moment and as he directed his gaze toward me he replied slowly: "Well I should say it was just about the same as your own, Frank—just about the same as your own."

The spectators broke into laughter, which of course was frowned down by the court, but I deemed it best to let the matter drop at that point and dismissed the witness.—San Francisco Call.

How Some Insects Sing.

The Greeks shut the cicadas in cages so as to be sung to by them in their sleep. The Greeks were at odds concerning the nature of the singing apparatus, and the controversy among naturalists on the subject lasted till very recently. The zoologist, H. Landois, who investigated the difficult subject of animal sounds with ceaseless industry and great skill, was able to give a satisfactory solution to the question. According to his research, the case is one in which the sound is really made by air circulating through passages in the interior of the body.

Every insect's body is penetrated by a system of breathing tubes or tracheae which opens at places on the surface. The openings are called stigmata. This system of breathing tubes, through which the air is inspired and expired, takes the place of the lung of the higher animals. Landois discovered them in very obscure parts of the cicada, and found that they form a kind of windpipe representing the tone factory of the animal.—R. Francheschini in Popular Science Monthly.

Reading Men by Means of the Dog.

Warden Davis, of the Jackson (Mich.) prison, has a peculiar method of reading the nature of the prisoners in his charge. "A mean man hates a dog," said Warden Davis, "you put that down as morally certain. I have stationed my old family dog here—good old soul, never had a mean thought in his life, did you, old man—at the gate as the convicts filed through, and watched their faces as they saw him. The men whom we know to be wicked black souled criminals either look away from the dog or glare at him with a look of wild ferocity, while the better class of convicts smile pleasantly at the old chap and frequently favor him with pleasant word."—Exchange.

Ramie Fiber for Pipes.

Steam pipes are made of ramie fiber hardened under tremendous hydraulic pressure and possessing a tensile strength equal to two and one-half times that of steel. The ramie fiber of China grass, has the property of being unaffected by moisture; it will not shrink nor swell, it is a non-conductor of heat, it cannot rust, and these features, together with its great strength, are all desirable in steam pipes, its utilization in this line being regarded, therefore, as one possibility of the future.—New York Sun.

Modern Swedish Houses.

The majority of Swedish towns are still built of wood; but some few there are which, owing to the destruction of the old houses by fire, have been rebuilt in a more substantial manner. In the breadth of the streets of these new towns and in some other matters the Swedish architects have set an example which might with advantage be followed by more southern peoples. One cannot but regret the destruction of the old wooden houses with their strange gables and quaint little windows; but what antiquary has lost the people have no doubt gained in improved sanitation and such like things.—Chambers' Journal.

The Explosive Ammonite.

The new explosive called ammonite is probably the most useful and reliable yet made. It has great power, is free from danger in manufacturing and in use, and recent tests made with it in England have resulted in the railroads taking it for transportation without the usual restrictions pertaining to explosives. It is not injured by exposure to the air and will not decompose. Its ingredients are a mixture of 8 1/2 per cent. of ammonium nitrate and 18 1/2 per cent. of mono-nitro naphthalene.—New York Times.

Charcoal in Wood.

A puzzle in tree growth is how to account for the charcoal, which forms a main part of the structure. Every part of a tree trunk is charcoal. That is in a tree it has to get from the atmosphere. This atmosphere contains carbonic acid gas, which is a compound of oxygen and carbon. It is known that the leaves absorb this carbonic acid gas and that in some way it is decomposed—it is believed by the action of light. The carbon which we popularly believe is sent back again into the atmosphere. We know that something of the kind must be, because we find the charcoal there, but in endeavoring to receive of the process by which this brought about we are as much at a loss as we are in discussing how the was made. If the separation of the oxygen from the carbon occurs in the green of the leaf we have to regard solid carbon descending through the whole system to the uttermost ends of the roots, which is not in accord with any a priori reasoning, nor has been any observation whatever to sustain such a view of the case.

On the other hand, if we are to regard each young cell as the unit plant life, through which all the operations for the perpetuation of the individual are transacted, there is no need known by which the oxygen is sent back to the leaves from these cell individuals. Whichever way we turn this charcoal question we are met with equal difficulties, and all the cautious biologist can say about it is, "I don't know." Many a time some book has settled the whole question but few are satisfied, and it comes continually for a new solution. Thomas Meehan in Philadelphia Ledger.

An Operator's Kindness.

"It isn't often that a telegraph operator stops to think of the message he receives or sends," said an old operator. "They are all of a size to him. Remember one night during the late war I felt my eyes moisten—yes, moisten as I read the following to Sena Fessenden: 'My son is sentenced to shot tomorrow morning at 9 for aiding in his post. Will you kindly for President Lincoln at once and include till I can reach Washington present evidence which will clear prove my son's innocence?' I knew that if the message was compelled to wait its turn it would not reach Senator Fessenden till too late for hope of reaching the President, to nothing of getting a reprieve sent to line of battle where the son was."

"I said to myself: 'Here is a human life hanging by a thread. Shall I let the thread by letting the message to its turn?' No, I couldn't. I violated rules and telegraphed the solemn message to all the hotels in Washington the senator was found and the message safe in his hands. Word came that Senator Fessenden had obtained the reprieve, and I telegraphed glad news to the poor old man up Maine."—Lewiston Journal.

Two Illustrious Invalids

Gounod is at his villa at St. Omer and is reported to be in very bad health. In fact he has been forbidden by physician not only to undertake work, but even to receive callers. Count de Lesseps is also in very feeble health, and he does not rally from attack which prostrated him after investigation into the affair of the Panama canal were commenced. But a man has reached the age of eight-seven every illness that seizes him once assumes an alarming aspect. It is no wonder that the "grand Frenchman" should have collapsed during the past few weeks, especially since the seizure of the books and papers of the company has been effected, an operation which took place some days ago. The once busy and animated man which the offices on the Rue Casimir were wont to present has been exchanged for a dreary aspect of dejection. The long years of misapprehension public confidence are ended at the Paris Cor. Philadelphia Telegraph.

The Aim of Science.

The grasp of the human understanding expands every day. It is only a few years since Humboldt conceived the mighty truth that Cosmos—the universal organization of things—was a system, however many universes it contained, each atom in it depending on and having relation to all of others. Next came Lamarch, who showed that all animals are kin. He followed the great inventor of the microscope, who proved that all of stars are composed of the same sort of materials as those which make up the earth. Finally came the discoverers who learned that the invincible powers of nature—heat, light, sound, electricity, magnetism, etc.—are forms of motion. All these propositions have been demonstrated. They are the most advanced scientists are striving now to prove is that mind and matter are one and the same. That proposition represent the highest intellectual effort of the age.—Interview in Washington Star.

A rose cultivated in a Philadelphia house measured seventeen inches in width.