

THE BEST OF LIFE.

Not till life's heat is cooled,
The headlong rush slowed to a quiet pace,
And every purblind passion that has reled.



SOME people may think it the easiest thing in the world to write a letter, but graceful letter-writing is an art, and it is an undeniable fact that, notwithstanding the superior educational advantages of the present time, comparatively few women of the period can write a well-expressed note.

It is hard to say just how this state of affairs has been brought about, for certainly this most essential part of a young woman's education has of late been apparently neglected. Thirty or more years ago note-writing was an accomplishment; to be sure, the diction was then somewhat labored and the style verbose, but every well-educated woman understood the art of writing letters and notes.

that they were more than friends. This was his first visit after his acceptance, and as yet he was still only a friend of the family.
They were still talking now about themselves when the maid brought her mistress a letter.

They discussed the wording of the reply, and decided to couch it in such a form that no mention should be made of the engagement, while no direct acceptance of the proposal contained in this note should be given.

CHAPTER III
It seemed as though the clock would never strike 4. Would the court never rise, that poor Juniors might doff their wig and stuff gown and hasten away westward?

CHAPTER IV
Another round was being dealt; each one had a card. Millman, looking on saw the light in Spencer's eyes; glancing at Carew he was surprised to see his mouth twitching nervously.

CHAPTER V
Forbes looked at his own cards, rather on curiosity than anything else. "Natural!" he shouted, his face aglow with excitement.

CHAPTER VI
Agnes Ransome, like a bee among the heather, hovering over the purple balls, was in her boudoir turning over with dainty fingers the books and pretty things.

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NEWS OF EDUCATION.

REMARKABLE GROWTH OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL.

A Woman Wins the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering—Many Colleges in This Country—Fads in the Schools.

Where Teachers Train.
The summer school idea has spread in America with amazing rapidity of late, "institutes" and "summer assemblies," springing up in all parts of the country.

The Wide Skirt Must Go.
Our prayers have been answered! The heavy, widely-distended skirts will very soon be a thing of the past. They are an abomination and ought never to have been allowed to become fashionable.

First of Her Sex to Get the Office.
Miss Celine Gray, of Guthrie, Ok., has the honor of being the first woman appointed as a United States Commissioner.

DAME FASHIONS DECREE.
Spotted esprit net in both black and white is used for neck ruffles. Skirts remain straight and round, with godet and organ pipe backs.

Our Colleges.
The general impression produced by the commencement day reports from all over the country, says the New York World, is that we have a great many colleges in this country, and that they are turning out a great many graduates.

Educational Notes.
A copy of the first edition (1633) of George Herbert's "The Temple" was sold at auction at New York for \$1,050.

The California School of Mechanical Arts, founded by the generosity of the late James Lick, has proved to be a revelation to its trustees, teachers and students in more ways than one.

they are yet in their early youth. Our great universities are really the creation of the past thirty years.

Young Woman Architect.
Miss Marian Sara Parker, of Detroit, is the first woman to graduate from the department of engineering of the University of Michigan.



Miss Parker entered the university four years ago from the Detroit high school, from which she graduated in 1891.

Commencement Day in Georgia.
Hitch up the ox team, Johnny, an' drive 'em to the gate.

Worked in the summer sunshine, an' worked in the winter's cold; An' I've bought her the finest dresses that ever the store-men sold.

When I thought of her bright eyes beamin' in an' said to myself: "I'll state 'Thar ain't no gal in the country so fit to graduate!"

When the public schools get away from the rudiments of an English education, says the Atlanta Constitution, the tendency is to drift to the special fads of certain reformers.

A violent discussion is going on in France over the co-education of the sexes, and French public sentiment is much opposed to the attempt to introduce it.



THEIR STRANGE PROPOSAL.

Three steely wreaths of smoke from three cigars floated toward the park. The night was calm, with scarce a breath of air to set the tree tops nodding.

No one thought to jar upon the stillness of the scene by uttering his thoughts aloud. Besides there was no need of speech; they were friends, and, being friends, smoked in peace, helping by their presence the unfolding of each other's dreams.

But the spell was broken at last. The warm coloring of Lewis Forbes' dream had vanished into a grayness of vacancy.

He rose, and by his motion disturbed his guests. The three men rose and shook themselves free of the last remains of what they had just tried to conjure up again before them.

The heat from the fire began to make them more sociable, and they talked on all sorts of topics, their conversation taking on a wide range, from the newest book on conveying to the latest opera.

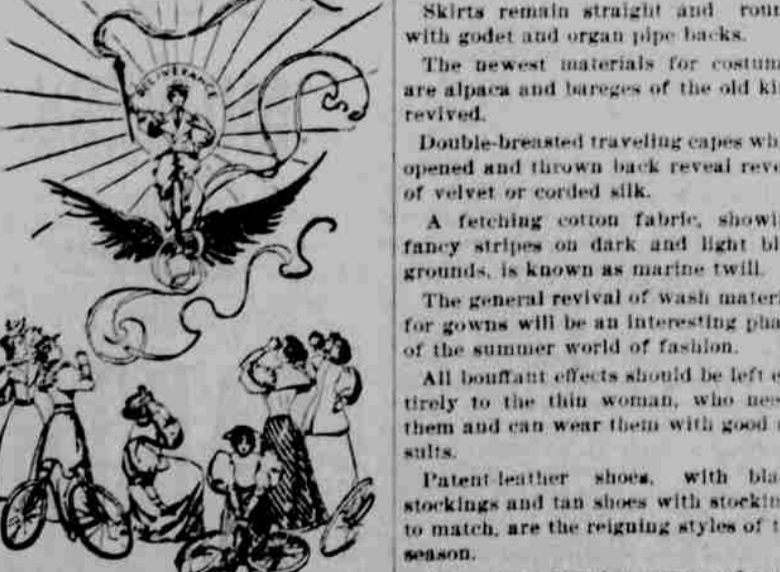
At last the talk came in nearer circles and assumed a more personal interest.



NEW STYLES IN BATHING DRESSES.

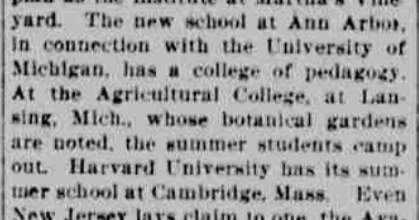
look over a dozen or more notes of invitation, regrets and acceptances written by debutantes and the average society woman. They are for the most part loose and crude. Verbosity is tiresome, but it is preferable to brevity that amounts to coarseness.

THE WHEELING WOMEN.



On came they, the loveliest throng in the world, Their banners of faith and allegiance unfurled, Bent low every knee, upraised every eye To their star of deliverance far up in the sky.

Farmers and Their Wives.
There is no question that some farmers' wives have a hard time. I am not speaking of farmers' wives as a class. They not only have to do all the household work, which is often too much for one woman to perform, but quite frequently too much outdoor and barn work.



DAME FASHIONS DECREE.

Spotted esprit net in both black and white is used for neck ruffles. Skirts remain straight and round, with godet and organ pipe backs.

The newest materials for costumes are alpaca and barages of the old kind revived. Double-breasted traveling capes when opened and thrown back reveal revers of velvet or corded silk.

Hats of combination straw and satin braid are trimmed with bands and rosettes or standing bows of the same pliable fancy braid.