

### Fashion Notes.

Stripes will be worn for traveling suits. Bengalline is the new name for Sicillenne. Satin mervilleux is the present name for Surah. Jet-beaded Spanish lace trims many imported suits. Mantles with havelock capes attached will be worn. Shirred visite mantles appear among other spring wraps. Cheese cloth comes in a much improved form for summer suits. Fans and parasols match fancy costumes for country seaside wear. Havelock capes and collars appear on many-tight-fitting ulsters. Large white collars of linen batiste will be much worn in the summer. Fringes, as well as flowers and satins de Lyons, come in shaded effects. Large-figured crotonne costumes will be revived for indoor and country wear. A glint of pale blue in toilets where reds prevail produces a fine artistic effect. Bottle green and cinnamon brown are the colors for fashionable matrons. Long, tight basques, fitting as snug as a Jersey are worn at the moment. Point d'Aurillac is a new lace used in the trimmings of mull collars and cuffs. Gloves are worn to reach above the elbow when the sleeves are very short. A leading novelty is the Normandy crown to Tuscan straw Fanchon bonnets. Camellias, both red and white, are revived for corsage and coiffure decorations. Some of the new mull muslin neckties have hems all around of blue or pink mull. Bead embroidered and gold thread stitched gloves appear among expensive novelties. Mantles are trimmed with high fraises of plaited black lace around the neck and shoulders. Cheviot ulsters take the form of loose Mother Hubbard cloaks, with large square elbow sleeves. New Lisle thread and silk gloves have long, loose, buttonless wrists reaching half way to the elbow. Bouquets of roses of all shades grow more and more popular, for both the corsage and bonnet. Imported dresses this season have bouffant hip draperies, but are narrow and clinging at the bottom. Pale rose and pale blue India muslin neck scarfs are more worn at the moment than white or cream ones. The high plaited fraises about the neck and shoulders of summer mantles give them a very dressy look. A dash of yellow in the form of a ribbon bow or yellow flower gives the required live effect to a gray or brown toilet. Chemisettes of cream white, pale blue, and rose-colored Surah, and of India muslin in the same colors, will be much worn by young girls. Dark gray shaded to silver gray is a favorite ombre silk for bonnets, the trimmings consisting of steel and silver beads, steel and silver ornaments, and shaded dark and silver gray ostrich tips. —N. Y. Sun.

### The Highland Regiments.

There are nine regiments in the British army which have the title of Highlanders. Of these five are killed and the other four wear the trows. The killed regiments are the Forty-second Royal Highland Regiment (the Black Watch), the Seventy-eighth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs), the Seventy-ninth Cameron Highlanders, the Ninety-second Gordon Highlanders, and the Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders. The regiments wearing the trows are the Seventy-first Highland Light Infantry, the Seventy-second (Duke of Albany's) Highlanders, the Seventy-fourth Highlanders, and the Ninety-first (Princess Louise's) Argyllshire Highlanders. Of those regiments the Seventy-ninth wear the Cameron tartan, the Ninety-second the Gordon, the Ninety-third the Sutherland, and the Ninety-first the Cawdor Campbell, the uniform thus in each case connecting the regiment with the county and family in which it was raised. The Seventy-first wear the Macleod tartan, having been raised by Lord Macleod, son of the Earl of Cromarty, and the Seventy-eighth, who were formed by the Earl of Seaforth out of the clans of Mackenzie and Macrae, wear the Mackenzie tartan. The Forty-second wear a tartan which is not like that of any clan, although it closely resembles the Forbes tartan. The reason for this is not far to seek, as the regiment was originally formed of gentlemen of various clans and families.

### A Fastidious Prisoner.

There was a prisoner in cell No. 5 whom nothing could suit. He found fault with the size of the cell the moment he was locked in, and as soon as he discovered the lack of a Brussels carpet and a walnut-panel bedstead he took on dreadfully. During the night he called for wine, new maple sugar, bananas, his dear mother, a volume of Shakespeare and about fifty other things, and at the last moment before being conducted to the court room he said to Bijah: "Now, then, I want a pair of gloves and a cane, and you may give my shoes shine and my coat a brush." "Is this James Lobdell?" asked his Honor. "Yes, yes, certainly it is," was the reply, "and I want to remark that the station houses of this city are a disgrace to the tenth century." "Anything wrong?" "Everything wrong, sir. Think of a

man of culture and refinement having to sleep on a bench instead of a bed! No carpets, no chairs, no light, no books and the old bald-headed man called Byzar telling me that it was good enough for me, and asking me to wash my hands in cold water and yellow bar soap!"

"And yet you were not particular about the sort of drink you got drunk on," mused his Honor. "It was whisky, and poor whisky at that. You were kicked out of a saloon, fell into the mud several times, and the officer found you asleep on the edge of a mud-puddle."

"Drunk, sir! Does any one assert that I was drunk?"

"It is so asserted. How came you here if not for drunkenness?"

"I did not know as I was under arrest until locked up. Being a stranger in the city, I supposed I was walked up here to save me from being robbed."

"What could you have been robbed of?"

"I refuse to answer any such debasing questions!" said the prisoner, as he turned away.

"I shall have to send you to the House of Correction."

"If I am sent to a bastille," said James, as he halted in his walk and stretched forth his arm, "if I am sent to prison for even an hour this country shall ring with a —"

"Clothes-wringer," said the court, as the prisoner stood gasping for breath.

"I sentence you for thirty days, and if you faint away or burst a blood-vessel or have a fit the only remedy we have at hand is to pour cold water down your back."

The prisoner followed Bijah into the corridor and challenged him to fight a duel, but the old man doubled him up and put him in the coal scuttle until called for. —Detroit Free Press.

### The Center of Population.

For several weeks an expert "calculator" has been at work in the census office figuring out the location of the center of population of the United States. It is not an easy task, as one can imagine who gives the matter a little thought. The whole territory is divided up into small squares, and the population ascertained for each square. This is arrived at by consulting the population of each civil district, township or ward. The squares are made to balance against each other until a common center is ascertained. An expert calculator has already been engaged more than a month in this work, and another month will be required before the true "center" is known. The work has progressed far enough, however, to show that the center will be very near Cincinnati, certainly not over four or five miles from the business center of the city. A few weeks ago it was thought the center would make a final "landing" upon the hills which encircle Cincinnati to the northward, but progressive calculations now indicate that it will cross the Ohio River and establish itself on the south side. This is owing to the unexpected increase of population in the South, which will cause the "center" to shift further southward than heretofore.

### The Perils of Amateur Poetry.

Several amateur poets are in trouble. Rodney McGollan has been compelled to pay a verdict of three hundred dollars in a breach of promise case at Barrie, Canada, the evidence of his promise being the following verse, which he wrote to the plaintiff:

Long have I loved, but some strange spell  
Forbids my heart its tale to tell.  
Here, take this card, and simply feel  
The love my lips dare not reveal.

Henry Horace Dade, of San Francisco, sent an enemy a postal card on which was written an original and highly personal song, with this refrain:

Everybody, everybody knows, knows, knows,  
You're the very biggest boat that grows.

Dade's effort has cost him a fine of fifty dollars. W. R. Newhouse, of Philadelphia, wrote some rhymes about the fickleness of William John and circulated them on printed slips. Here is a sample verse:

If you center your affections on a youth like  
William John,  
You'll be likely to discover the foundation  
they are on.

For a fascinating cruiser like this individual isn't apt to be contented with a solitary sail. A threat of a lawsuit induced Newhouse to sign an apology, and collect and destroy all the copies he could find.

### School Teachers' Salaries.

A proposal in the Boston School Board to reduce the salaries of the school teachers of that city gave Rev. George A. Thayer a chance to free his mind on the subject in a minority report. He had obtained estimates, he said, from careful and trustworthy persons of the incomes enjoyed by successful members of the learned professions in Boston. Fifty lawyers make \$10,000 a year and upward; one hundred make from \$5,000 to \$10,000; one hundred or more make from \$3,000 to \$5,000. Eleven doctors are believed to make \$20,000 a year, forty from \$10,000 to \$20,000, eighty from \$5,000 to \$10,000, and two hundred from \$3,000 to \$5,000. In three leading Protestant sects, twenty-one ministers receive salaries ranging from \$4,000 to \$10,000. For his part, the Rev. Mr. Thayer thought that Boston should seek for the teachers of its children large-minded persons, whose abilities would have earned them distinguished success in any of these other professions or in trade. But it could not get such teachers unless it was prepared to assure them honorable comfort and an old age free from care about money.

—Senator Mahone has a daughter and two sons who are old enough to enter society

### Plowing in the Spring.

"Do we plow too much?" was the question put by one of our readers a few weeks ago, who then proceeded to give his experience in the preparation of land for corn without plowing, on which corn had been grown the year before. Another implement was used, and the results, as stated by our correspondent, proved very satisfactory in saving time and labor, and also in the outcome of the crop. This experiment is suggestive and no doubt arrested the attention of numerous readers, and it is not improbable that some of them may adopt the "new departure" in the preparation of their land for the spring crops.

The preparation of the soil for the reception of seed, is the most important of all mechanical operations on the farm, but the time, the desired depth, and the manner of doing the work depend upon various circumstances, as the kind of crop to which it is intended to devote the land, the character of the soil, etc. There is no question but that the time and labor of plowing some fields for a spring crop, are unnecessary, or in other words that fields which have been well tilled during the preceding season may be put into good condition for the reception of seed by the use of implements which greatly economize time and toil. But, of course, this method cannot be followed at random. Every farmer knows that a great deal depends upon the season as well as the kind or character of the soil. It sometimes happens that a light or naturally friable soil has become packed and hard by beating storms, and that plowing it is indispensable in order to put it into proper condition for a crop, while, under other circumstances soils of a much heavier texture turn over like an ash heap; so that in this, as in other things, the judgment of the farmer must govern in the methods employed in carrying on the operations of his farm.

A few words here upon spring plowing are not out of place. Sandy or gravelly soils may be plowed or re-plowed in the spring without running much risk; but it is different with clay soils, and the rule should govern that clay is to be plowed in the fall or winter. To pursue a different course involves a risk, especially with undrained land. A clay loam which is under-drained and has been well cultivated may be treated more like a lighter soil; but even then prudence is required, for clay soils are sensitive, and are often injured by starting the plow too soon after a heavy rain, showing the effect in the yield of the crop. Stiff, adhesive soils, whether clayey or loamy cannot be plowed to advantage while wet or very dry. However, such soils are improved by frequent plowing, as this reduces them to that finely comminuted condition which is favorable to the growth of plants. All tillable land has more or less clay in it, and if worked when too wet, the result is hurtful. It is in this way that disappointment occurs in the yield of rich alluvial lands, which fail to produce abundantly because the clay is thus rendered comparatively useless.

It may seem superfluous to some of our readers to offer suggestions that are well understood by them. It must not be forgotten, however, that many of our later readers are young farmers, or men who have had little or no experience in tilling the soil. Nor is it out of place to occasionally remind farmers of longer experience that much care must be exercised in plowing or re-plowing land in spring. In no small degree does the success of the season's crop depend on the farmer's prudence in this regard; nor does the matter end with a single season, and this is one thing that is frequently lost sight of at the time a farmer may be turning over his land. While land is too wet to plow, whether in fall or spring, to turn it up so that it will bake is to injure it for several years, entailing much unnecessary loss both of yield of crops, and of labor to restore it to a natural condition of fertility. —Prairie Farmer.

### Grafting—Grafting-Wax.

The season for grafting is now here and may be continued until the end of May, provided the grafts are carefully preserved—that is to say, kept in an ice-house or in a cold cellar, after the weather has become warm to prevent their growing. We have set grafts the last day of May with as much success as at any other time, and we have known of grafting being done up to the 20th of June. When understood—and it ought to be an easy thing to learn—anyone can do his own grafting. Yet due care must be taken in all the details to insure growing.

Stocks or limbs to be grafted, not over two inches in diameter, should be cut off at the distance of four inches. A fine saw should be used. Incline the saw so that the stump, if perpendicular, will shed the rain. The bark must be uninjured. With a sharp knife smooth off the sawed stump. Take a case-knife, which is as good as any, place it across the heart of the stock, and force it down with a wooden mallet. We use a very narrow screw-driver for keeping open the split. Shape the scion wedge-fashion both ways, keeping the bark intact. We make a shoulder as far up as the scion is shaved; it is not so strong, but better insures growth. The inside of the bark of both scion and stock must meet or cross, in order that the sap of the two may commingle. Set the scion at a slight angle spreading from each other. When the stock is small and only one scion inserted, place a piece of wood on the opposite side of corresponding thickness. If the slit does not close up sufficiently, tie round a cotton string to keep it tight upon the graft. Cover with wax every part of the cut wood and slit. In three weeks' time go over the grafts and re-

wax if needed. It is air and rain getting in that destroy. Where the limb to be grafted is from two to four inches over, it should be cut say six inches from the tree, and from four to six scions may be inserted.

Where there is only grafting to be done on one's own premises we make the wax, as we have often published it, as follows: four parts of rosin, one part of beeswax and one part of beef tallow. Melt them together in a skillet (which is the best,) or a tincup, and stir well. It should remain in the vessel and use as needed. Apply with a light wooden paddle or spatula. Twenty or thirty scions can be waxed with one warming-up. When much grafting is to be done, a little fire for heating the wax should be made on the spot, between two bricks or stones.

Formerly we had considerable grafting to do upon our own premises, which we attended to personally, and found it to be one of our pleasantest pastimes. —Germantown Telegraph.

### Spring Tokens.

It is hard sometimes to tell when the back of winter is fairly broken. The persistence of its vertebrae in our climate is something wonderful. It surrenders a good many times in its later days, only to stiffen up more perpendicularly again for a renewed contest with the inevitable. Some of the birds which are always with us leave their haunts in the woods in these intervals when the weather relaxes to forage near the house and barn. They make a reconnaissance along the more traveled roads to see what bits of straw they can find to thresh out, or to gather the kernels spilled from the farmer's sleigh on its way to or from the mill. I have seen the crows particularly active in this way of late, as if their winter fast had made them bold, and they could endure their enforced hunger no longer.

The crow, if anybody does, knows pretty well what he is about, and he keeps his eyes and mind on the alert when he has a mission near the human habitation. I think I can see already that the belief in spring has had its effect upon him, although the vicissitudes of the late winter have given him an early and rigidly compulsory Lent, which he is trying to terminate just as ours begins. Not long after I was watching his and two of his brethren's movements the other day, a pair of bluejays came into the yard here, and both seated themselves on the low limb of a tall elm not far from my window. They were pretty specimens, with exceptionally soft and rich plumage; and if they were not making some calculations for the summer soon to come, then they were looking very wise and discursive over matters that seemed not a particle less significant. They are rare visitors at so close a range, but the proximity of a corn-crib to their familiarly-selected perch may account for the unusual invasion.

On the 3d of March, late in the day, I was surprised to find within a few feet of me as I opened the door-yard gate leading to the highway, a plump little red squirrel, who, with his mate, occupies a hollow tree near by. He is a constant summer guest, but he had not shown his head for months until that moment. He knew me at sight as well as I knew him, and just turned back a little on the pickets of the fence which he had made his trotting-track until I had achieved the passage through it. His foresight had served to keep him fat and sleek, for no squirrel could look as he did who had not put up rations proportioned to the strength and severity of this uncommon season. There was a luster in his beady eye, too, that spoke of good heart and good cheer, and a cordial relish in his enjoyment of his new observations that assured me all was well with him and his household. But why should he have selected the 3d of March for his tribute to the season? Did he wish to see the very last of the Hayes quadrennial, or was he awaking himself betimes for the inauguration of Garfield?

How gracefully at ease this little rodent deports himself, as if an infinite leisure were his, and no carping concerns could be permitted to mar it! The evergreens near by were the only objects that gave any sensible hint of summer attire, and yet the summer must somehow have entered into his thought. His confident step betokened that the worst of our journey to it is now ended, and that a new order of things is at hand. To see him in the bright expectant attitude he had so suddenly assumed, was a veritable token of spring—a foretoken of summer—

"Annihilating all that's made  
To a green thought in a green shade."  
—Joel Benton, in N. Y. Evening Post.

### Manuring the Garden.

The cost of manuring a garden plot is trifling and the result so satisfactory, it is a matter of wonder that those who desire a fair harvest of fruits or vegetables do not treat the soil a little more liberally in this respect. Before getting seed, plants, splittings or cuttings, get manure. Study the character of the soil and seek to give it the manure best calculated to enrich it, and there is nothing better than well-rotted stable manure. Let it be well worked into the soil. It is of little use to a gardener to throw it upon the ground and there leave it. Let there be as thorough pulverization as possible and then intermixture of the manure, and the land will show its gratitude in the results. —N. Y. Observer.

—Professor Riley says that kerosene oil is sure death to insects in all stages, and the only substance which is destructive to their eggs. This oil will mix with milk and may be diluted to any extent.

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