

## DECREES OF FASHION

### COLORS AND COSTUMES IN POPULAR FAVOR.

**Girl's Dress of Bright Red—Pastel Blue Velvet Blouse—Short Veils Worn With New Styles of Hats—Some Appetizing Dishes.**

#### Fixing Up the Cozy Corner.

A corner settle made for a room with high window ledge suggests possibilities for the living room or "den." The settle is made of white wood enameled in light oak color. The space between the window and seat is filled in with curtained book shelves. The ends of the settle have a carved design which matches the "new art" pattern of the paper—a lotus variation forms the motive. This seat is upholstered with brown plush. The big square pillows are of brown plush and brown gold cloth. One pillow covered with a shadow silk in dull rose, brown and green gives a note of warmth.

#### A Spring Hat.

Cutely turned up across the front is the spring hat of bronze-colored "erin" or horseshoe braids. The crown is softly indented on top. The brim is broad enough to be quite high when sheerly turned up in front, and gives the effect of a triangular hat at sides and back. Folded bands of rich bronze-colored velvet, with a five-looped bow of the same, laid in front on upturned brim and resting almost on the hair, constitute the trimming. One superb pale rose-colored ostrich plume almost encircles the hat. It starts at the back and continues around the crown, but at the left side it curls over the brim, and hangs down toward the back.

#### Among the Light Fabrics.

Ever since fashion veered around to soft, lightweight stuffs that could be shirred and draped and tucked and made into full, wide costumes, manufacturers all over the world have been working to turn heavy fabrics into light, stiff materials into supple, without losing the characteristics of each material.

Nobody thought it could be done with taffeta, yet soft finish taffeta has been achieved, and has leaped into popularity with a single bound. Among the spring suits none is much prettier than those in which taffeta plays an important part.

Voile skirts—perhaps one of the new little checked voiles, or one that is plain—are trimmed with taffeta, just the "least touch of a shade" darker in color, and the jacket—a rather short, jaunty little affair—is of the taffeta, tucked in the prettiest of ways.

#### Of Pastel Blue Velvet.

The fronts, which cross slightly, are finished with wide bands of the velvet, ornamented at the top with motifs of green embroidery of a shade harmonizing with the blue.

On each side of the front, at the bottom, the blouse is trimmed with a band of green velvet and buttons. The waistcoat is of white taffeta, fastened with two rows of buttons, and the chemisette is of white guipure.

The sleeves are entirely new. On the outside puffs are let in, and they are finished at the bottom with double cuffs, ornamented with motifs of embroidery. These flare over puffs and frills of white silk or chiffon. The girdle is of velvet or satin.

#### New Aprons.

There are many new kinds of aprons, for the demand is increasing for them. Some are edged with em-

broidery made in muslin and tied round the waist; others have a bib, which is cut in one with the collar piece; this would be very pretty for a bazaar, with a couple of rosettes to be placed at the waist, and where the collar piece and the bib unite narrow ribbons cross in the front and end beneath this rosette. Others, again, are bordered with lace and have a bib, which is attached to a band going round, just as if intended to mark the décolletage, edged, like the skirt of the apron, with lace. Those who want it for work simply have a pretty pink muslin made with a very deep pocket, drawn in at the top beneath a large ribbon bow. Some of the muslin lace-trimmed aprons have pretty ribbon bows attached to charming epaulets and then, again, there are pretty overalls, the bodice part box-plaited, set into a yoke embroidered to match the cuffs. It is a very charming addition to a pretty woman's appearance.

#### Girl's Dress of Bright Red.

The skirt is gathered at the top and has a plain front breadth. The sides



and back are finished with an accordion plaited flounce, set on with a little heading and with a band of the material piped with black, the ends ornamented with gold buttons. The blouse is accordion plaited and finished in front with two piped bands, ornamented with buttons. Similar bands form the shoulder straps.

The turn-over collar is of white cloth or silk, trimmed with gold braid and buttons, and the chemisette is of white lace, of which the deep cuffs are also made. The latter are trimmed with the piped bands, and the full sleeves are accordion plaited and shirred into the armholes.

The plaited girdle is of the material trimmed with a piped band finished on each side of the front with buttons.

#### News of the Spring Hats.

Picture hats and these tiny little affairs that Paris has whimsically insisted all the world shall wear are side by side.

Such funny little affairs some of them are—regular little polo caps, or Dutch bonnets, that are only tiny apologies for hats, yet are wonderfully attractive and most becoming.

New swisses are embroidered and printed in all sorts of designs, the flower idea being perhaps prettiest of all.

A new treatment for the tiny lace frills that face some of the prettiest of the spring hats is running them from the outer edge to the inner and out again in a sort of point, which is filled in by other frills, which get shorter and shorter as the space decreases.

Linen hats are exquisite, with every day a new way of trimming—or of making—them, springing up.

A white chip hat, edged with a row of light blue braid and trimmed with blue velvet ribbon, is one of the simplest, prettiest things imaginable.

#### To Do Up Muslin Dresses.

To make colored muslins look like new boil one quart of wheat bran in six quarts of water for half an hour. Strain through cloth, and when cool wash the dress in this, using neither soap nor starch. Rinse lightly in clear water, to which a little ox gall has been added. If colors are to be set, a tablespoonful of the gall is the usual amount. If there is no danger of fading, a teaspoonful is enough. When nearly dry, iron. This preparation of bran both cleanses and stiffens the fabric.

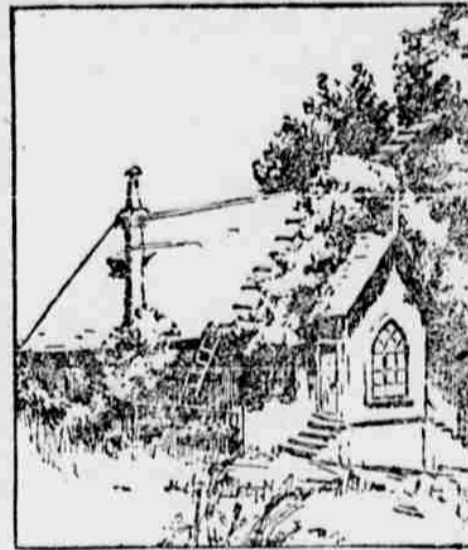
## OLDEST IN UNITED STATES.

**Belfry of St. Peter's Church, in Tacoma, Washington.**

The oldest belfry in the United States and one of the oldest church towers in the world is the spire of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal church, in the outskirts of Tacoma.

The church supplies also what is perhaps the first case on record in which a congregation selected a belfry and built the rest of the church around it. Although the spire is made entirely of wood, it is now 700 years old, and will probably be standing when many comparatively new iron and steel belfries have been razed.

Forty years ago the pioneers of Tacoma organized a church society. They



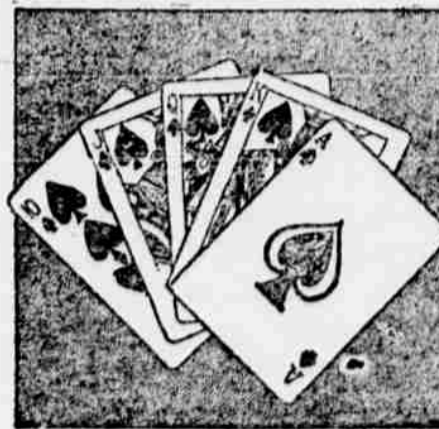
selected a site for their place of worship in a forest of Douglas fir trees that skirted the shore of Puget sound, and stretched inward for many miles. Out of these immense, shaggy-barked trees that towered upward for 200 feet without a branch below the upper half, they chose one eight feet in diameter to serve as the steeple.

When the branch bearing portion of the tree had been cut away to prevent the falling of limbs in case of a storm, there was left a bare trunk nearly 100 feet high. Beside it there was built a plain little structure. The bell was fastened to the tree and the little church, with its enduring steeple, was complete.

Although St. Peter's was at one time in the heart of the village of Tacoma, unfriendly Siwash Indians manifested such strong disapproval of church-going pioneers that a trusty shotgun came to be regarded as necessary to the church service as the Bible and hymn book.

To-day the hostile Indians have disappeared, and even the city of Tacoma itself seems to have abandoned the church with its ancient tower. It is surrounded by a few little dwellings, occupying the section of Tacoma known as Old Town. The business part of Tacoma is three miles away, but one of the buildings to which Tacomans point with pride when explaining the superiority of their city over Seattle is St. Peter's church.

#### Beautiful Hand to Hold.



#### Old "Copperhead" in Trouble.

Moses Stannard of Madison, Conn., who is about 85 years old, was a defendant in a civil suit in the court of common pleas at New Haven the other day. During the civil war he was a "copperhead" and raised a confederate flag on his house in the northern part of the town. The action led to his arrest and his imprisonment for a time in Fort Lafayette.

## MADE PETS OF RATTLERS.

**Tennessee Farmer's Odd Liking for Venomous Snakes.**

Joshua Fleener, aged 80 years, keeps a den of rattlesnakes at his home near Richards postoffice, this county. He has made pets of snakes ever since he was a boy.

He has eleven rattlesnakes in his den, and experienced some difficulty in caring for the serpents during the cold weather. Fleener lives in an old-fashioned house with the back wall of the fireplace on the outside of the building. The den, built of stones, was made with the chimney place as one of the walls. The reptiles were placed in this den during the cold weather, and only one died this winter as a result of the cold.

Sometimes, when the chimney made the den too warm, the serpents would become angry and fight one another. The snakes were all captured by Fleener in the woods near his home, and they are all timber rattlers, a species which is becoming rare in this state. —Nashville Correspondence Indianapolis News.

#### Animals That Defy Cold.

A learned professor of the Académie des Sciences has been making experiments which have resulted in convincing him that the rabbit is of all living things the most capable of withstanding a very low temperature. Enclosed all night in a block of ice a rabbit was found next day getting on very comfortably, and evidently not aware of anything very peculiar in its circumstances. In this regard the rabbit leaves far behind our faithful friend the dog, and, according to the learned professor, sheep, goats and pigs take good second, third and fourth places.

#### 4,000-Guinea Ewer.



The small ewer of rock crystal and silverwork found at the Beaudesert residence of the Marquis of Anglesey, which was sold at Christie's for 4,600 guineas (\$21,000).

#### Dame Fortune's Freaks.

Of all the freaks of Dame Fortune few probably are so strange as those which she literally stows away in her lottery wheel. One might suppose that people who paid their money for a lottery ticket, with high money prizes in prospect, would at least take the trouble to look out for the result. The opposite is the fact. Of such sums as £2,000, £1,000 and £400 lying in the Credit Foncier and other establishments, unclaimed by the winners, the number is considerable. There are many as six sums of £4,000. Some of these "lots" have been unclaimed for twenty years, and in ten years more will revert to the state. But all is not yet past hope. It is recorded that a Panama lottery prize of £10,000 once lay ten years before the winner heard of his luck. He had strayed to South America before the "draw," and had not troubled himself about his number. —Paris Correspondence London Chronicle.