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HONEY FOR THE LADIES.

Spanish girdles are exceedingly fashionable. Bonnets for afternoon teas, weddings and receptions are nearly all white. Cloth princess gowns demand trimming of fur—as their make-up forbids drapery. Black lynx is the favorite fur of matrons and elderly maids who cannot afford seal. Walking shoes of Angora kid, made over last's delightfully big and square-toed, are de rigueur. For very little folk, hoods of chinchilla, with lining and loops of shell pink are the highest fashion. We are promised in the near future new gloves of the favorite tan and gray, wholly without stitching. Husbands are now said to write "W. P." in the corner of their letters, which means "The permitting." Half-shoes of bronze, patent leather French kid or suede, are preferred to slippers for evening wear. Some of the new silk stockings for wear at balls and operas are open worked and embroidered with tinsel. Trained princess dresses of velvet, over petticoats of moire, are the rage for elegant reception and dinner costumes. People who have never watched a woman drive a horse have missed a great deal that tends to make life amusing. The New York Association of Collegiate Alumnae are described collectively as a "well-groomed" set of women. The wife of the president of the French republic is a thoroughly domestic woman, devoted to her children and to the church. Hats are segregating themselves into distinct species—low, with wide brims, and steeple-like, with a bare suspension of projection. The Age of Women is the title of a forthcoming magazine. You venture the prediction that the editor will not dare to give it away. Smart looking fur capes are either passe-montre, with epaulets and loops of cord passe-montre. Lower skirts are plain and straight, without foot pleating, and often bordered with a deep band of velvet or brocade, above which appears braided or passementerie. All kinds of furs will be acceptable as holiday presents, but sets of the fox furs, black and silver, red, blue and gray, are the first favorites with young women. It is computed that there are nearly a thousand women in Iowa who own farms, and give them their personal attention. Only eighteen of these farms are mortgaged. When a girl wears a perfume garniture to her ball dress she uses the perfume of the lower flower that forms the bouquets, garlands, and party of spray for the hair. Mature women wear wide bonnet strings folded narrow, and tied in long loops that are pulled out to the ear and pinned with jeweled pins, leaving ends conspicuously about. Miss Mary J. Coleman is registrar of deeds in Clay county, Kan. Deeds must be clean as a pin when she takes hold of them, and she knows a good title from a false one when she sees it. A Louisiana lady says that some educationists are questioning the usefulness of Vassar and other colleges, imitating a piece of cloth tied around the neck with a silver or gold cord. A handsome Spanish opera cloak from Worth's house in Paris is made of white and gold brocade lined throughout with primrose plush and edged with a wide border of astrich feather bands. A Louisiana lady of aristocratic bearing, who was once famous for her wealth and the number of her slaves, now carries a few cents a day by picking cotton on the plantation that was her own before the war. The Hon. L. C. Lockwood says she does not want the National Woman Suffrage association next

year, but that Miss Anthony and Mrs. Lucy Stone are both fighting for it. Colored silk gauze lace trimmed handkerchiefs are made to do duty as fancy lawn shades over by cutting a hole in the center for the chimney to pass through, and trimming the same with lace to match the border. When a man comes home late at night, after working hard all the evening at the office on the books, it is mean for his wife to require him to say, "Shouldn't such a shabby fellow as I be before you?" before she will unbolt the front door. All street jackets have some sort of braiding. They handsomely show tinsel braiding on the waistcoats, but very popular are those of dark blue, edged all around with a cording of black astrakhan and black braiding of rich and heavy design. Bridesmaids' dresses are of white satin. An overdress of some light material, point d'esprit or embroidered silk mull, is usually worn. The corsages are in best taste when high, but V-cut bodices are not infrequent. They are never very décolleté. United States Marshal Gordon, of Trenton, N. J., has appointed his daughter, Aphrosine M. Gordon, as his deputy. The marshal has been too ill for several months to attend to the duties of the office, and his daughter has been acting in his stead. She is but twenty, pretty, and smart. Mrs. Smith (Mrs. Jones' servant girl)—"What do you want?" Servant Girl—"Mrs. Jones sends her regards and says would you be so kind as to count your children and see if you haven't got one too many, as our Kitty hasn't come home and school has been out two hours." The favorite jewel ornaments for Christmas gifts are diamonds or "rosos diamonds" paste brilliants in the form of suns, stars, crescents, flowers, butterflies, and leaves or other fanciful designs. The most popular is a ring which can be utilized for other purposes as well as coiffure. The loveliest evening dress for a tall and slender girl is one made of shot silk, the colors changing from orange to pale lemon and pink. Over this drapery of amber dotted tulle, looped with aggraves of amber and pink crystals, and rain fringes falling over cascades of lace. Ribbon braces for trimming simple corsages are very pretty and effective. The ribbon is usually of moire and fastens on the shoulder in a simple knot. At the waist and back the braces terminate in a knot and a number of loops. In front they finish with a bow of long loops and ends which fall low on the skirt. Overskirts are nearly straight—by consequence very full at the top—where they are neatly pleated at front and side, and so deeply at the back that the folds reach the skirt hem. For looping one or two big bows each side take the place of the multitude of irregular ones seen and wrestled with this five years past. Miss Prime—Philosophers disagree as to which period of life seems the longest to mankind. What is your opinion, doctor? Doctor (meditatively)—Well, it varies. In women, for instance, the longest generally is between twenty-nine and thirty. I know in my wife's case ten years elapsed between her nineteenth and thirtieth birthday. Mrs. York is a practical little woman with no nonsense about her. "My dear, how shall I leave you?" said York, when a fit of the blues overtook her. "I'll leave you as you are," replied Mrs. York, "and you can't do anything to help me." The New York World recently related the story of a young lady cast suddenly upon her own resources who knew how to do nothing under the sun but give dinner parties. This lady, who was a member of the American Society of Dinner Directors, first to her friends of more prosperous days. She now has a clientele which enables her to live comfortably. Hortense Bertrand, daughter of Count Bertrand, the most faithful of Napoleon's friends, is still living in Paris. She accompanied her father and mother to St. Helena. The emperor taught the little Hortense her catechism and she made her first communion at the hands of the same abbe who administered the last sacrament to the dying Napoleon. Mrs. Frances E. Willard, president of the National Women's Christiana Temperance Union, has just written a narrative of the rise and an explanation of the purpose of this organization, which is by far the largest society of women ever formed. It has a membership of 300,000, taking in almost every

state and territory and most foreign countries. A very pretty and simple dress is of Gobelins blue cashmere, the plain silk trimmed with a deep row of brown braiding of the sort that comes in patterns ready to be applied. The long curtain draperies are of the untrimmed cashmere, and the plain basque bodice has the brown braid applied back and front in V shape, the collars and cuffs being also braided. Aunt Hattie North, who recently died in Troy, Kas., was thought by those who knew her best to be fully 117 years old. She was a colored woman, and remembered living in St. Louis when the city was a French trading post, with very few houses. The related incidents that occurred a full century ago, and as she never how to read it was thought that she spoke from actual experience. Wedding parties all in white are at present preferred, but at a recent one where the bride and all her maiden train were brunettes, all but she were in pale pink. The plain waists and V-cut bodices were of moire, and these were draped and trimmed with the softest and palest of pink silk mull. Each bridesmaid carried a huge bunch of American beauty roses, tied with floating moire ribbons of the prevailing color. An old woman who has just died at San Antonio, Zacatecas, Miss Laura C. Troland, has an interesting history. It is said that formerly she pursued the unlawful vocation of a highway robber. She used to mount on horseback and stop the stage, pistol in hand, and several times succeeded in robbing the passengers. She always eluded justice, but lately, when railroads were built in the state, she was caught in a lawful calling and retired to private life. Mantels, redingotes, and newmarkets, popular as they are, are by no means exclusively worn. Jackets still hold their own, and appear in tempting variety. They are generally close fitting, though the double-breasted Hattensburg, the Norfolk, and the Paris blouse are to be found in many kinds of materials. Stockinet jackets abound, and some of these are very warm, being fleeced-lined thus enabling the wearer to defy the frost. The salons of New York most worthy the name are those of the literary women. Among these the correspondents mention Mrs. Mary L. Booth, Kate Sanborn, Mme. Demorest, Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, Mrs. Croly, Mrs. Frank Leslie, Miss Laura C. Troland, and Lillie Devereux Blake. The same correspondents irreverently says that the political salon in New York is out of the question, "apart from the nature of New York politics, and partly because the woman who could hold one has not yet appeared." The tailors are making for the severe and simple new tail coats, which are of Spanish polonaises. These have a perfectly plain silk skirt of either dark blue, gray, green, brown, dark red or black, and on the edge is set a box plating two inches wide of broadcloth of the same color. The polonaise is a long undraped garment of the broadcloth which shows only the merest edge of the pleating beneath. Most of them are severely plain in style, having no fullness in the back and cut to fit over the moderate tournure. A Peoria belle went to the Knights of Labor ball the other night. Her brother had taken her to the ball and then gone away. The girl wore a new pair of shoes which were about two sizes too small. The heat of the ball-room soon began to tell and gradually her feet began to swell and the pain became unbearable. Going to an anteroom she took off her shoes, when her feet suddenly swelled to an enormous size. She tried every means, but to no avail, and, worst of all, her brother, who had been waiting for her, came in and saw her in her stocking feet. Among the many clever devices for giving variety to plain dresses is to cut the bodice front out slightly at the throat and trim it with a small medici collar. There are variations of this kind in a dozen inside collars of various shades of straw to wear with blue. These are made by laying upon the foundation of stiff muslin half a dozen overlapping folds of the surah and adding a tiny chemise of the surah shirred. This collar closes in the back where the juncture is concealed by the medici collar of the waist and may be made of black for street wear, and of blue, white, strawberry or Charles X pink for the house. The Hattensburg style of embroidery is among the newest. It is formed with braid and resembles guipure lace. Among other adaptations it is found suited for church uses, as in altar cloth.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

Mrs. Langtry will spend the summer in England. Faure, the baritone, is going to Vienna to sing in opera and concert. Will H. Bray, the violinist, will sail from San Francisco to Australia about New Year's. George H. Jessup, a graduate of Trinity college, Dublin, is writing a new play for Mrs. Langtry. Joseph Jefferson will go to his Louisiana plantation this week, to remain there until the spring. Mrs. James Brown-Potter has announced that she is going to play Lady Macbeth. The costumes have already been ordered. Adelina Patti's concert at the Paris Opera Comique, on Friday, for the benefit of the French hospital in London, drew an immense audience. Kate Forsyth has returned to New York from San Francisco, and will leave for Europe immediately after the holidays in search of a new play. Mrs. Cleveland has always shown a particular interest for pretty actresses and good actors. She loves to go to the theater to see a good play or a popular star. The boy pianist, Josef Hofmann, is to receive \$5,000 for his season's work and his expenses and those of his father are reduced by his manager. "Le Syndic de Verone," a new opera composed by MM. Albert Geroy and Henri Clément, has been put in rehearsal at the Theatre Royal of Liege, in Belgium. The gross receipts of the engagements of Booth and Baile, and Mr. Henry Irving at the Chestnut Street opera house, Philadelphia, reached nearly \$100,000. Herr Niemann is to be defendant in a suit for \$10,000. It appears he played poker with Frederick Schiller and the manager spoke of him as a gambler—hence the trouble. In Lizzie Evans' new play "Our Angel," the villain pursues her through four acts and she is rescued while the heroine sings and dances the audience into a frenzy of delight. Coquelin has been giving six performances in Buda-Pesth, the Hungarian capital, with the usual results, viz: the multitudinous audiences, deafening acclamation and the presentation of the time worn silver laurel wreath. "Le Roi Koko" is the name of a three-act vaudeville by M. Alexandre Bisson, which has been brought out at the Theatre de la Renaissance in Paris. The Ashtante king in native costume is shown on a visit to Paris. Mascotte's "Le Cid," has been coolly received at the Royal Vienna opera house. It was a grand success for the scene painters, the costumers and the singers, but the music, condemned as hollow, artificial and uninspired. The queen of Spain has fallen in love with the art of song, and is taking lessons from the baritone, Napoleone Verger, who sixteen years ago was a member of the concert troupe that visited America with Mile Christine Nilsson. Considerable interest attached to Clara Morris' recent engagement at Harrisburg, Pa., from the fact that it was the great actress' first visit to that city, although it is the actress' mother. She received a perfect ovation. Henry Irving is the most scholarly looking of all living actors. He is as much inferior to Booth as an actor is to a superior to him as a manager and master of stagecraft. The chief fault of Irving's acting is too little nature and too much art. Mile. Van Zandt, who has entirely recovered from her recent illness, will appear in "Lakme" at Buda-Pesth, January 15. At present she is filling an engagement in Vienna, and later she will sing "Ophelia" for the first time at Nice. In order to try the extent to which a tragic actress is moved by the whirl of stage passion, Sara Bernhardt's pulse was once tested at the wings immediately after a scene of great intensity. It ticked as regularly and normally as an eighty-day clock. Mr. Joseph Murphy, the comedian, is about to take a long rest from the stage, and will travel in Europe and otherwise court leisure for a year at the close of this season. During fifteen years of continued work the actor has accumulated a large fortune. Mme. Gerster will probably sing only once more during her stay in America. That will be on the occasion of a monster complimentary benefit in New York which Mr. Abbey

will tender her in her own name. She has determined to abandon America for the time being; and it is not probable that her voice will again be heard upon the concert stage. Miss Sarah Jewett writes to Manager Palmer from Clifton Springs, N. Y., that she is very much improved in health, notwithstanding the relapse which followed the recent publication of a cruel yarn regarding her and the consequent scandal which surrounded her name, and she hopes to resume her position on the stage toward the end of the season or the beginning of next. Mrs. Langtry is particularly partial to the moonstone, and owns one of the most beautiful of its kind known to connoisseurs. It is large and of oval shape, almost transparent, and flashes the colors of the opal under certain lights. Its beauty is enhanced by a setting of small diamonds, which brings out its transparency, and its owner asserts that she always succeeds best in her play when she wears this ornament, which is used as a pin amid lace ruffles. Mr. George M. Cipriola, an actor who left the stage in account of an unfortunate accident, and has since last spring been running a school of elocution in Minneapolis, has fully recovered his health, and will return to the stage this coming year to appear as Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello, Romeo, etc. Mr. Cipriola, who is to be known as the "Western Tragedian," will shortly appear in St. Paul and Minneapolis in readings. Mme. Modjeska is going abroad to sell her properties situated in Acrood and Takopane. She has become so thorough an American citizen that she wants all her interests centered in the United States. When all the actress' property in Europe is disposed of she will play a season in Russia, Germany and Poland, and in Russia and Germany she will use her present company, speaking in the native language herself, while the company will use home bred Anglo-Saxons. An English builder of theaters has invented a panic lock for theaters doors. It is contained in a panel which occupies a large space on the inside of the door, and an one coming in contact with the door must press the panel, upon which the door opens instantly. It is impossible for the doors of a building fitted with this lock to be fastened so that ingress is prevented, but from the outside no entrance is possible except with a regular key. Terry's theatre in London has been fitted throughout with the new lock. Chicago is to have a new opera house, called "The Auditorium," with frontages on Michigan avenue, Congress street and Washington street. The building will be 700 feet long, and the opera house proper will be located in the center of the building, which is to include ten stories high, with a grand dome and a tall tower, fourteen stories high, in which business offices will be installed. There will be 4,000 seats in the body of the opera house. The place will be lighted by electricity, will be fireproof, and is to be equipped with a stage that will embody every device that has proven successful in the opera houses of Europe. The outlay for the building is estimated at \$2,000,000. The European career of Teresina Tua, the young Italian violinist, has been a remarkable one. On July 28, 1880, when she was but thirteen years old, she won the grand prize at the Paris Conservatoire, Ambruse, and then, Godard, being the jury, Germany artists like Joachim and Hattelsiek were her admirers. The queen of Spain made her court violinist and the Queen of Sardinia, and with the order of "Stella d'Italia." The Queen mother of Spain gave her a genuine Amati violin, on which she plays in her concerts. The princess Wilhelmina of Prussia, who is a valuable diamond, and so on through a long list of nobles. Burgin's master, Teresina Tua, American manager has given her up as a bad speculation. The fair violinist's concert has not paid as it was expected they would. A few days ago her manager paid her \$5,000 to release her from his onerous and unprofitable duties, and turned over all his contracts to her. Patti left London on the 12th inst. for Lisbon, where she is to give a season of opera. A well within a mile of Cincinnati is a producer of 5,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily, and roars like a thunder storm. It is a singular fact that the recent cold snap in Georgia froze up the ice factory at Griffin and deprived the town of ice. A drove of drunken turkeys made a strange sight in Larimore, Dak., a few days ago. They tackled a quantity of stale beer which had been thrown into the street. August Shields of Hunt county, Tex., is seven feet ten inches tall and still growing.

with clusters of the same, of artistic splendor. Her dress for "Lucia" is white and green satin, embroidered in pearls. Silver tulle is set aside for "Il Puritain"; for "Crispino, yellow satin; for "Rigoletto," pale blue corded silk; for "The Barber of Seville," shrimp velvet, with black lace; for "Lakme," white embroidered crepe de chine. All the jewels were made here in heavy gold. For "Traviata," the diva had three sets of jewels sent. She is to sing in Madrid and Lisbon until April, when she goes to Rio Janeiro. EDUCATIONAL. Thirty-five tons is the estimated weight of the telescope mounted in the Lick Observatory at Mount Hamilton. A new academic and technical school for homeless and destitute boys is shortly to be established in San Jose. There are opportunities for young men and young women to go to China and Japan, sustain themselves by teaching. President Barnard, of Columbia college, has promulgated the new rules, and the marking system in that institution is no more. The late James M. Pierce of San Diego, Cal., at his death left a fortune of over \$100,000 to found and support a school for homeless boys and girls. The San Diego college company has filed articles of incorporation. The capital stock is \$300,000, divided into 2,000 shares, all of which have been subscribed. Prof. Francis Wayland of Yale university, has been elected a fellow of Brown university, Providence, R. I. Prof. Wayland's father was president of Brown for twenty-two years. Miss Helen A. Slater, professor of mathematics in Wellesley college is to become acting president of the institution on the retirement of President Alice E. Freeman, who will soon retire. An unknown friend has given Yale college \$125,000, to be expended in building a recreation hall. The new building will be placed on the campus, near the corner of College and Chapel streets. The centennial anniversary of the birth of Rev. Thomas B. Gallaudet, LL. D., the founder of the American asylum for deaf mutes, the first institution of its kind in America, occurred Saturday, December 10. Prof. Fechner, of the university of Leipzig, died in Dresden, November 19, at the age of eighty-six. He was one of the leaders in the modern movement which aims at giving philosophical speculation a scientific basis. In the election of Lord rector of Glasgow university the vote was equally divided between Lord Lytton and Lord Roseberry. Lord Lytton received the casting vote of the chancellor of the university, and was elected. Edward von Hartmann's "Philosophy of the Unconscious" is in its ninth addition in Germany, and has been twice translated into French and once into English, Swedish, and Russian. An Italian translation is in preparation. The new law of Colorado which provides for the study in public schools of the state of the history of the whole world and the effects on the human system, has gone into effect with the opening of the present term. Leland Stanford, Jr. had he lived, would have reached his majority in May, 1889. It was hoped by his parents that the university bearing his name would be in running order by that time, but it is now by no means certain that the buildings will be ready for occupancy as was expected. SINGULARITIES. There were found in the stomach of the deceased Alice, the eminent elephant, several dollars in pennies. A well within a mile of Cincinnati is a producer of 5,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily, and roars like a thunder storm. It is a singular fact that the recent cold snap in Georgia froze up the ice factory at Griffin and deprived the town of ice. A drove of drunken turkeys made a strange sight in Larimore, Dak., a few days ago. They tackled a quantity of stale beer which had been thrown into the street. August Shields of Hunt county, Tex., is seven feet ten inches tall and still growing.

He is twenty-two years old and has six brothers, two of them taller than himself. Quite a curiosity in the shape of a twig orange is on exhibition at Anthony, Fla. It was found in Mr. Stripland's grove. Many old inhabitants say they never saw anything of the kind before. A solid lump of coal, containing eighty-seven cubic feet and weighing 6,351 pounds, was exhibited at the Texas state fair recently held at Dallas. It was the largest block of coal ever taken from a mine in the United States. The largest orange produced in Florida has been picked from Gardner's Hardens grove in Bevard county. The variety is known as the London navel. The orange was fifteen and one-half inches in circumference and weighed exactly two pounds and two ounces. Fourteen years ago a bottle of milk placed in a well at Owensboro, Ky., to cool, fell into the water. The other day the well was cleaned out, and under about eight feet of mud was found the bottle, and the milk within was apparently as sweet and good as the day it was put in. It is an interesting freak of nature at Marysville, Cal., in the shape of a double-headed calf, the two heads being set on one neck. But Hyron, a rival California town, now boasts a double-headed pig, because of its wonderful pig, which has two bodies and one head. A Kentucky woman who has seven sons, all born on Sunday, has petitioned Governor Buckner for a pension. She says in her letter that she "Never herd of 7 boys all born on Sunday," and she thinks that such an uncommon case of maternity should be properly rewarded. In Oglethorpe, Ga., there is growing a potato which has inscribed upon one side of it the letter "B" as perfect as if it had been made by hand, but this grows this way, and the hand of nature did the work. And to make the potato a more wonderful thing, the mother tuber was the initial of the gentleman who raised it. Colonel Mynatt's mother, living at Pine Log, Ga., started the family the other evening by crying out suddenly: "Poor Susan is dead; she's gone to her rest." The lady referred to was living in Texas, and had not been seen by the family for years. A few days later the mail brought news of her death, which had occurred suddenly at the very time at which Mrs. Mynatt had cried out. A large hoot owl of an exceedingly rare and valuable species mistook the headlight of Al Walker's engine on the Norwich & Worcester road, Conn., for some far-istant gull and ran into it. The engineer and his fireman were considerably frightened, not knowing what they had struck. The bird was killed, and the engine when the train reached Norwich, it measured four feet from tip to tip of wings and will probably go to some museum. HOME DECORATIONS. Mahogany furniture has been in many instances disguised in white enamel. Pearl is quite freely used in the inland work adorning handsome styles of furniture. A good deal of beveled glass of the first quality is seen in woodwork and furniture of all sorts. Light oak is frequently the selection for dining rooms instead of the dark, more antique style. The varieties of wood enameled for drawing rooms in white and gold are chiefly white wood cherry and maple. A fine decoration in paper mache is applied in white and gold rooms on the high wainscoting and in the furniture. Rosewood, prima vera and other articles of mahogany, with oak cherry from the trunk material for woodwork of the best kinds. Flocks of geese and ducks, droves of pigs, teams of horses and mules, and groups of goats compose some of the new metal and bisque paper weights. A wholly new method of needlework is represented in embroideries from nature, the needle serving to make correct copies of flowers or foliage without the use of the pencil. Novelties for the Christmas tree consist of silver and gilt paper bonbonnes in the shape of helmets, bird cages, boats, ships, yachts, fishes, ducks, and geese, enclosing tiny silver bags, red and blue, blue and yellow, with narrow ribbon draw strings to attach them to the tree, after closing the bag over the bonbons within.