

## Weekly Retrospect.

April with its bright sunny days has passed, and now the sweet month of May is here. Love for the Mother of God draws us near our Blessed Lord, and His love for us is intensified by her gentle intercessions on our behalf. Let us lay our burdens at Mary's feet, she will assist us to bear them with patience, she will teach us to love her Divine Son with that exquisite worship the heart longs for. Let us keep ever before us the intense suffering of that Mother, when she saw her beloved Son nailed to the Cross, and the great joy at His resurrection. May is the month set apart for Mary, and during it, we will offer at her shrine flowers of charity and patience and beg her to intercede for us that we may overcome our many passions. "Can we help a certain jubilee of heart in thinking that the month of God's Mother has now begun, that each day of it is bringing more and more glory to God, and more and more help to the Church, because millions upon millions of souls, in every clime and of every blood, are daily growing in the deep reverence and the deeper love of the Immaculate Mother of God?"

Why is there such a love of the Sensational now-a-days? The decay of refinement among the gentler sex is to be regretted, but if women will stoop to all that is low and vulgar in this world and air their scandals in court, let it be with closed doors and for the love of God not vitiate the minds of the young.

There are so many terms handed down from generation to generation, we would like to know the origin of, for instance the Kit-Kat portraits. This term originated from the Kit-Kat Club, which was formed about 1700 and was composed of 39 noblemen and gentlemen who were attached to the House of Hanover. They used to meet at one Christopher Katt's, a pastry cook from whom they took their title. An epigram was written on the toasts of the club and was attributed to Pope or Arbuthnot, it is not really known which wrote it. The term then came to be applied to portraits, owing to Sir Godfrey Kneller having executed likenesses of the members for one Jacob Tonson, a bookseller, and who was Secretary of the club. These were all one size and then new, and are still distinguished as the Kit-Kat size.

We so often wonder why it is that such wretched bacon is used by many housekeepers, especially in this country being so hard it is almost impossible to eat it. "If good bacon" says the Queen, "is wished for it should be personally selected. It does not do to simply write an order in a grocer's book for so many pounds, and leave it to a grocer's assistant and luck. Choose it of medium size, with fat and lean quite distinct in colouring. The lean should be pink, and the fat white. If the lean looks white the bacon will be hard and tough."

A pretty spring gown, described in one of the latest Journals, is made of diagonal material shading from several shades of green to a bright cerise. A green velvet vest and epaulettes embroidered in iridescent beads finishes this stylish frock. With this costume is worn a black straw hat caught up at one side with a pink velvet rosette, and the crown half hidden by a bunch of field flowers, over which hovers a butterfly. Another gown is a combination of turquoise blue velvet and black silk, the sleeves and skirt being of silk, and the perfectly fitting bodice of blue velvet, finished with braces of cream lace insertion over black satin ribbon, and epaulettes of lace. Ribbons of the two colors, tied at intervals hang from the waist to the hem of the skirt. A tiny bonnet of turquoise-blue velvet and black jet is worn with it. "Capes are still the garment the most adopted and useful, but are gradually growing shorter.

They are of the two or three story build but of different materials." To have an under cape of moire or satin, usually of black, the second collet of finely pleated chiffon or spangled net. This is finished with a full ruching of ostrich feathers or quilled tulle round the neck.

## An Eminent Woman Journalist.

Mrs. Margaret F. Sullivan was the guest of honor recently at a small reception in New York, at which a number of well-known literary and journalistic women were also present. In the course of a little corner conversation one of the newspaper women recalled the story which Mrs. Sullivan herself had once told of her entrance into journalism. Mrs. Sullivan is one of the best editorial writers in the country, and, strangely enough, it was in this very capacity, so seldom filled by a woman, that she did her first newspaper work. She was a 16-year-old school-girl when some subject, in which, as it happened, she was particularly interested and about which she was very well informed, came up for discussion in the newspapers. She read the editorials which were written about it, but realized that they did not go to the root of the matter, and after a few days wrote her own views on the subject and sent the article to the Chicago Tribune. She did not sign her full name. It was promptly printed and a request sent her for another article, on the same subject. She sent one, and it came out with the same flattering promptness. Then a note was sent asking her to come to the Tribune office. She went a schoolgirl, in short skirts and with her hair down her back, and the grave and reverend signiors of the big paper were astonished when they saw her. After they had got their breath they said it must be a mistake. They wanted to see the man who had written those editorials. The young girl assured them that she had written them. Then the learned gentlemen hinted that it was worse than a mistake; that there was, er—well, they did not accuse her outright of lying, but they unmistakably looked their doubt. The girl from school then said she would be glad to accommodate them sitting down and writing a few editorials while they watched the wheels go round. She was taken at her word, and for several days wrote brilliant editorials under lock and key, as it were, in the Tribune office. Finally the doubting Thomases reluctantly admitted that the school-girl was a brilliant prodigy and not a clever fraud, and from that time until a few years ago Mrs. Sullivan was one of the leading writers on the paper. She finally severed her connection with the Tribune to occupy an equally high place on the staff of the Chicago Herald. The Herald was one of the most ardent advocates of a constitutional convention in Illinois, and Mrs. Sullivan wrote all the editorials which her paper printed on that subject. Her study is completely lined with books, many of them French, with which language she is perfectly familiar.

## Wit and Humor.

That a woman has no idea of distance is known by every husband who has heard his wife boast how far she makes her money go.

When a man does try to be good and takes care of the baby, his wife complains that he will be the death of the child the way he handles it.

"When we don't spend our money," says an old gentleman, "we are economical; when other people do not spend their money, they are stingy."

"Well, I'm not going to run any such risks, my dear." "That's just like you John! Ever since you got your life insured you've been awfully afraid you'll get killed!"

It was the first she had ever baked, and she said proudly. "Don't you think I could go into the bread business?" "My dear," answered her husband, gently, "if they sold bread by weight you'd make your fortune."

The bill for the disestablishment of the Welsh Church passed its first reading in the House of Commons on Monday.

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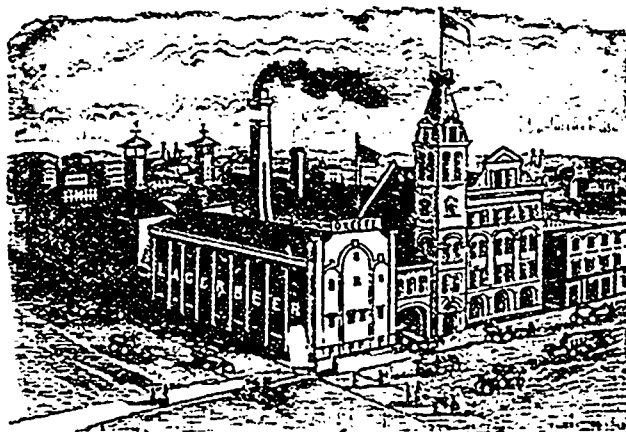
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