

## WHAT WE SAW IN FRANCE.

HOW wide your eyes would open were you to see our French sisters and brothers, especially sisters! Our determination to indulge in sea-baths was slightly crushed in Paris when we went to buy bathing-suits. As we could not find what we considered the correct thing, we concluded to wait until we came here, for we could not believe that the polite young clerk, with waxen moustache, was trustworthy, when he showed us such very disgraceful looking trousers and waist-minus skirts, and assured us they were for ladies, "*parfaitement comme il faut.*" Having given him a smile that, interpreted vulgarly, meant "What are you giving us?" we left the shop, concluding to see for ourselves what other people did. At eleven o'clock, the bathing hour, we sauntered down to the beach, and, securing front seats, near the water's edge, waited for the arrival of the crowd. First comes a kind of dress-parade, when "*monsieur*" appears in his white flannels, with his few stray locks brushed carefully over his bald spots and a jaunty straw hat or white cap placed deliberately on the top of them. Madame, in her foulard, with *frou-frou* trimmings, and though past fifty, seen through her pink tulle veil and under a girlish hat of crushed roses, she has still enough of the *couleur de rose* shed over her to keep up the illusion of past charms. She is followed demurely by a *bébé* of twenty, the typical French *ingénue*. How Frenchy and captivating they seem, however, all looking as if fashioned by the same modiste. They exchange many charming nothings with chance acquaintances, and survey the sea and their audience through long-handled glasses. Into their sentry-boxes (for they are scarcely bigger) each one goes, and we can hardly restrain our impatience, so anxious are we for a sight of them again. Finally, "Here they come!" cry our children, excitedly. We turn, and see several male and female figures draped gracefully in long cloaks of different hue, each having selected their favorite and most becoming color. All stockingless, showing their white, well-shaped legs; and I must admit I can not refrain from saying, "How lovely! What ankles, by Jove! Just look, how their skin glistens and shines in the sunlight!" At last they drew near the water and the rope that forms the dividing line between the male and female bathers; for—mark you, my friend—the French, though naughty and considered vicious, still have their code of morals, and no man dare bathe his lady friends, as is done so recklessly in America. Monsieur and madame may take hands and, in a stately manner, walk into the water; but woe to the unfortunate youth who lays the weight of his little finger even on the *ingénue bébé*, or makes the fearful mistake of crossing the "bee-line." Those lovely wraps, of course, do not go into the sea; they are dropped, one by one, and either handed to a maid—who is generally there for the purpose—or thrown across the line to wave their bright colors in the salt breezes. And what do our eyes behold? Can it be—yes! the identical bathing-costume, the only one known in France. There they stood, matron and maid, father and son; figures slight, sligher, and slightest; figures fat, fatter, and fattest; all clad in trousers and waists exactly alike.

## PARENTS' DISAGREEMENTS IN PRESENCE OF LITTLE CHILDREN.

If mothers could only realize what a critical period their children are passing through from the third to the sixth year, they would exercise more than ordinary care during that time. Not only physically but mentally and morally are they undergoing a change—a change for the better or worse, according to the care and the attention they receive from their mothers and fathers.

A father is no more exempt from certain duties towards his offspring than the mother. He should always bear in mind that his assistance in the control of the children is of more value to his tired wife than the presentation to her of a costly gift.

It is the time that children begin to notice papa's and mamma's bearing to one another; let this always be one of courtesy and respect. Nothing so quickly destroys respect for parents as constant bickering in the presence of their children. The first thing a child should be taught is respect for his parents and elders; affection comes naturally with most children, and is the most valuable aid in gaining control of their actions; next to that is respect, without which very little can be accomplished for the child's welfare. Parents should bear this in mind, that children lose respect very soon upon hearing them disagree, using bitter, cutting words to each other. This is inflicting the first actual pain these baby hearts have been called upon to bear. In the presence of this the child experiences conflicting emotions, which ends in pity for one parent and contempt for the other. Oh, parent, pause; consider before you lose this hold on the little being who has heretofore considered you perfect! Let there be unanimity of purpose in act, word and deed before these little creatures, who are susceptible to every new impression, if you would preserve their love and respect.

## MAKING MONEY FAST.

DEAR SIR,—Having read the experience of several of the boys in THE QUEEN, I am tempted to write what I am doing during my vacation. I sent to the Co-operative Supply Co., 54 Canada Life Building, Toronto, Ont., for one of their Gold, Silver and Nickel Platers. It cost me only \$5.00. I have had more tableware and jewelry than I could plate ever since. I cleared \$27.00 the first week, and \$124.00 in four weeks. Any boy can do plating and make money in any neighborhood during the entire year. If my business keeps up I will be able to buy a farm of my own. Hope other boys will give their experience at money-making. You can get circulars by addressing the above firm.

JOHN W.

## THE MUSICIANS' GUIDE.

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"MAIDS of Honor" seem destined to take the place of the tiny bridesmaids which have been *de rigueur* for smart weddings. At a fashionable marriage in the East a pretty little girl appeared costumed in a short-waisted frock of white faille, cut in Puritan fashion. The plain bodice terminated close under the arms, the skirt falling in long straight gathers nearly to the ground. The head of golden hair was enclosed in a close Puritan cap, from which several rebellious curls escaped; shoes with enormous silver buckles were worn, and in her mittened hands the little maid carried a big rush-basket full of ox-eyed daisies and ferns.