

## OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

MME. ANNA LAMPERIERE, who has an airy and pleasing style, writing in the *Paris Figaro*, says: "A fifth estate—the feminine estate—has arisen. Its advance guard is deployed in line of battle; its staff has already matured plans, and the main body will soon be placed where the most malignant cannot dislodge it. The habit of deriding this band calls the public attention to it.

Very cleverly the main body is sheltered behind the advance guard, which makes all the noise, receives all the blows and lets the missiles of journalists and bourgeois pile up around it without turning a hair and makes its trumpet sound over the whole world.

"What has woman been up to now? Nothing. What is she to be? Everything!"

This is the formula which has been adopted by Mme. Potonie-Pierre, the chief sapper of the advance guard of the women's army.

"One hears but little except from this valiant group, but the great body of the army is coming, its members singing with Beranger

Non, mes amis, non, je ne veux rien être, and confining themselves to be post-mistresses, telegraphers, directresses of primary schools, professors of secondary education, inspectors, painters, composers, sculptors, authors, doctors of medicine, lawyers even; seeking and gaining their livelihood instead of waiting for a gentleman more or less well disposed to provide it.

"However, there is a long road to be travelled before the mass of the French nation fall in line with this advance guard. The Chicago Exposition has its 'Women's Building,' in which very properly a place is reserved for French women. A committee has been formed to organize this part of the Exposition, and it has been remarked that not one Frenchwoman has been called to join it. *La Justice* has protested against this, and Mrs. May Wright Sewall, President of the National Council of American Women, has been sent to explain. When one considers that the Union of American Women includes two million members, it will be evident that the official direction will act towards us in the manner of Turk to Moor."

The monks of the middle Ages divided the kiss into fifteen distinct

and separate orders—the decorous, or modest kiss; the diplomatic, or kiss of policy; the spying kiss, to ascertain if a woman has drunk wine; the slave kiss; the kiss infamous—a church penance; the slipper kiss, practiced towards tyrants; the judicial kiss; the feudal kiss; the religious kiss (kissing the cross); the academical kiss (or joining a solemn brotherhood), the hand kiss; the Judas kiss; the medical kiss—for the purpose of healing some sickness; the kiss of etiquette; the kiss of love—the only real kiss.

A curious marriage was solemnized recently. A clergyman, aged 72, being struck with paralysis, and being near death, began to think of setting his house in order before he quitted this world. One thing troubled him exceedingly, and that was the fate of his old housekeeper. He had no money to leave her. At last he was struck with an idea. He proposed, and was married to her while he was lying in bed nearly dead. A day or two afterwards he died, and his faithful servant was rendered comfortable for life by the annuity granted to all poor ministers' widows from the ministers' widows fund.

The trousseau of the Princess Margathe will contain a great quantity of exquisite lace of which the young princess is a great connoisseur. The Empress Frederick has ordered a great part of the lace from Hirschberg, in Silesia, so as to encourage the industry, and at present the people are at work on two exquisite veils, one of which bears a design of roses and myrtles, the other having a conventional pattern. Black and white lace shawls are also ordered of Chantilly and Duchesse lace.

The three rings the Queen prizes most are: First, her wedding ring, which she has never taken off; then a small enamel ring, with a tiny diamond in the centre, which the Prince Consort gave her at the age of 16, and an emerald serpent which he gave her as an engagement ring. Her Majesty sleeps with these rings on.

A Boston beauty, while out with her young man, a few evenings since, ate nine plates of ice-cream at his ex-

pense. She then said that, when in good condition, she could readily put away a dozen. He is a ten-dollar a week clerk, and is now considering the advisability of breaking off the match.

A shorthand writer in Berlin attends the funerals of all prominent persons and takes down verbatim the addresses of the officiating clergymen. He prepares highly ornamented copies of these and sells them to the friends of the eulogized dead. He is doing a roaring trade.

A fashion authority states that the popularity of the serge coutume will extend into the winter months, the new serges having a very wide ribbed surface, and being of a thick, strong consistency.

When present one night at a Stafford House ball, the Queen on bidding good-bye to the old Duke of Sutherland, is supposed to have said: "I leave your palace to return to my house."

Swedish girls, at an early age, begin to make and accumulate linen garments. By the time they are of marriageable age, they have an extensive outfit of such articles.

Nearly 84 tons of ostrich feathers! That is the weight already disposed of this year at market auction sales in the United Kingdom. The amount realized was over \$430,000

The wife of a well known labor leader has recently remarked that many a man who is an electric light in public is only a tallow dip at home.

The buttons on the wedding dress of a millionaire's daughter, recently married, were made of jewels, and cost £20 each.

The Queen of Siam has the smallest feet yet seen on a titled woman. She wears one and a half in boots.

Berlin has an "Association of Married Women for the control of Husbands."

In equatorial Africa the price of a wife is ten packages of hair-pins.