

Pretty Girls of Paraguay.

Asuncion, December 28, 1898.—Paraguay is the paradise of South America. Its climate is delightful, its semi-tropical vegetation as luxuriant as that of the Garden of Eden, and it has about three Eves to every Adam. I have never been in a country where there are so many women. They swarm about the cities. They walk by you and with you on the highways and byways, and they are so many that you find it hard to get out of their sight, says a letter from Asuncion, Paraguay.

The women of Paraguay are so much in the majority that they do the work of the country. They are the buyers and sellers of every commodity, and outside the cities the men are the drudges. Any bachelor can find a wife in Paraguay if he wants one, for the men are now so few that any two-legged animal without feathers of the masculine gender will here be greedily grabbed. The sexes were once about equally divided, but Paraguay had a war which killed off the men. Paraguay was once the leading country of this part of the world. It was about the richest of all South America, and its wealth and influence angered the people of Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. They combined against it, and their joint army attacked the Paraguayans. The struggle lasted five years, but it ended in the wiping out of it as it were, of the Paraguayan men. It is said that 100,000 of them died in battle, and that thousands of women and children were starved to death.

It is hard to get accurate figures in any South American country, but, according to the best estimates, the population of Paraguay was cut down by this war so that there was only one man to six women, while another statistician gives it that three-fourths of all the people in Paraguay, numbering about 800,000, were destroyed. When the war ended there were only 200,000 left, of whom about 25,000 were men, and 175,000 were women over 15 years of age. The rest were children. Paraguay thus became a land of women, and nature seems to be keeping it so. Since the war I am told that more girls have been born every year than boys. In Asuncion the girl babies exceed the boy babies by more than five to the hundred, and outside the city the percentage of girl babies is greater.

The most of the women of Paraguay are poor. Many of them are hewers of wood and drawers of water. There are some who are rich. There are class distinctions here as everywhere, and the people of the better classes dress and act much the same as those of other parts of the continent. Paraguay high-class ladies wear clothes that are like those of our own girls. They wear bonnets or hats when out on the streets and a few of them actually import dresses from Paris. They speak Spanish when in society—at least, when in dress parade—and some are so well educated that they are able to read both English and French. Such women are usually interested in politics, and through their husbands, have much influence, upon what is done by the government. They are good housekeepers, excellent wives and mothers, I may say, the equals of their sisters of any part of this continent.

Many of the Paraguayan women are very good looking. This is so of all classes, and especially so of the young. A Paraguayan maiden is a trifle under middle height. She is as straight as an arrow and as limber as a willow tree branch, though inclined to be voluptuous in form. Her complexion is of the Jersey cream order—often of the reddish brown of the Guarani Indians. She has, as a rule, more or less Indian blood in her veins. When the Spaniards came here this country was inhabited by the gentle and semi-civilized Guarani. The two races intermarried. Their descendants took wives from the same tribes, so that to-day there are comparatively few Paraguayans who have not a large proportion of Guarani blood. The Indian mixture has resulted in the adoption of many Indian customs, and the language most spoken by the people to-day is Guarani. In the country districts little else is used, and in the schools of Asuncion there are notices on the walls that scholars must not speak Guarani during school hours. The Guarani is a soft language and the Paraguayan girls have sweet voices. Indeed their tones fall sweetly on my ears after the parrot-like accent which has saved my tympanum during my association with their Argentine sisters.

One of the chief industries of the Paraguayan women is lace-making. It is true that the better classes do all kinds of work, but all the women make beautiful lace. They spin webs as delicately as though they were spiders and every house is full of beautiful lace made by its women. They make lace handkerchiefs, fichus and embroidery and weave great handkerchiefs of thread so fine and so strong that they will outlast a generation. They have patterns of their own which they have taken from nature. One of the most beautiful is called the cobweb pattern, the threads of which are as delicately joined as spider web. One of the big spiders which live here in the semi-tropics. Some of these handkerchiefs are of silk, others of cotton, and some of the fiber grown in the country. It takes a long time to weave them, but there are so many at work that they are wonderfully cheap, so that an article which a month or so has been spent can be bought for \$5 and upward of our money. A good shawl perhaps costs that amount. Paraguay is a land of oranges. It is perhaps the only place in the world where the oranges grow wild. There are oranges in every thicket and in almost every forest. The villages are built in orange groves, and there are so many oranges that they often rot

on the ground. The fruit is delicious. It is the best I believe of its kind in the world. It is eaten by every one, and the orange girls are among the picturesque features of Paraguay. You meet women peddling oranges at the stations. You find them surrounded by piles of golden fruit in every market, and along the Paraguay River they are to be seen carrying oranges from the land to the boats which are to take them to the markets of the South. It is estimated that 60,000,000 oranges are thus annually shipped down the Paraguay River to Buenos Ayres, and the loading of this fruit is one of the great sights of the voyage. As we came up to Asuncion we saw at every town mountains of oranges on the shores with hundreds of Paraguayan girls kneeling before them and putting them in baskets, while other hundreds were carrying them on to the steamers.

The scene is one that you can not have outside this country. Stop with me at Villa Pilar and look at it. Villa Pilar has about 10,000 people. It is a town on the east bank of the Paraguay River, a day or so's ride by steamer. As the steamer stops at the landing we notice that every garden has its orange tree and that such trees shade the streets. We see ox carts coming in from the orchards cracking under their golden loads. Each cart loads about 500 oranges, piled loosely within it like so many potatoes. The driver directs his oxen to the piles of oranges on the banks, backs his cart up to them and dumps out the fruit just as our workmen dump dirt when repairing the roads. Oranges are indeed worth little more than dirt here. That whole cart full will sell for \$5, and we can buy all we want for 2c.

And still every orange is counted. Those women on their knees are putting the fruit into the baskets. They count as they work and a careful tally is kept. The oranges are carried on board by women, who balance their loads on their heads and walk over a gangway, to the steamer. There are a hundred women at this work now, and the ship is already so loaded with oranges that a wire netting has been stretched around the outside like a fence and the fruit piled up within. The deck is so filled with oranges, in fact, that the sailors are moving about on boards, which have become as slippery as ice. Stop and take a look at the girls. They are passing to and from the bank over that roadway of boards 500 feet long which has been built upon trestles to the steamers. Each has a round basket carefully poised on her head, and above these the golden oranges rise. The girls are dressed in white gowns, and the breeze which sweeps up the river wraps their thin skirts about their lithe forms. And still they walk without touching their burdens, and the shaking of the planks and the breeze from the river do not disturb them.

As you look you cannot help but admire the typical Paraguayan maiden. She is so well formed and she walks like a goddess. When young she is as plump as a partridge in autumn, and were it not for some of her ways you might fall in love. To a stranger her attractiveness is spoiled by the use of tobacco. The Paraguayan maiden smokes like a chimney. She begins to use tobacco when she begins to wear dresses, and even before, for you may see naked girls of 6, 8, and 10 with cigars in their mouths. I have seen scores of little girls of 7 and 8 smoking cigars almost as big around as their wrists, and as to old women it is hard to find one out in the country who does not smoke from morning till night. I speak of course, of the women of the common people. Those who are not actually smoking have cigars between their teeth, which they draw without lighting for hours at a time. Many make their own cigars, and tobacco is so cheap here that you can get a dozen fairly good cigars for 5c, and leaf tobacco is sold for a few cents a pound.

EARLY CLOSING IN LONDON.

A Proposition to Interfere With Permanent Local Customs.

"The man who writes to the Times" is not only an entity in London but is also a pictorial personage—the theme of the artist, the essayist, the novel writer and the dramatist. The sage advice of the Persian "Olah" to his patrons, "Let your troubles boil within," has little recognition in usage among dissatisfied Englishmen who find a temporary outlet, at least, for a few of their minor grievances in letters sent to London daily papers. Just now some controversy has arisen in London as to the expediency of the existing regulations, strictly enforced by the police, for the closing at the hour of midnight of public houses maintained for the refreshment of hungry and thirsty men. One such correspondent has been writing to a London paper on the subject, and his communication, a characteristic one, is as follows:

"I am not a wine-bibber nor given to riotous living in the small hours. But I want to know how much longer the peaceful Londoner will submit to the absurd regulation which denies him food at a restaurant after 12 o'clock on Saturday night. Why should he not be left to eat his supper at half-past 12, as on other nights? It is not a question of drink, sir. An American writer says our climate is fatal without whiskey. 'Two drinks a day or you die.' No, sir, it is arbitrary interruption of a man's supper on Saturdays that is killing off the population. And for what reason of State, gracious powers? I am a moderate consumer of oysters, with a chop and an omelet to follow, and the converse of mind in between. Why is all this to be suspended at midnight and my digestion turned into the street? Pray answer me that."

No satisfactory answer has been given to this inquiring Englishman and to other similar correspondents, who have been invited "to send a petition to Parliament" as the easiest and safest way to redress the evils from which they complain.

China exports 11,000,000 fans annually.

The Home

PAINT FOR SLEEPING ROOMS.

The modern dwelling is generally furnished as if the chief object were to gather and conceal dirt. With lace curtains at the windows, "fuzzy" paper on the walls and "fuzzy" carpet on the floors, about everything possible has been done to encourage dirt. When to these are added a deleterious crumbling paint on the wood-work, the way not to do it is perfectly illustrated.

Windows of sleeping rooms would be protected preferably with fixed blinds, but lacking these, nothing but good, easily removable shades on spring rollers should be tolerated. Wall paper should be sheaved and the wall should be painted in some light, cheerful tint, with a paint containing no poisonous materials. For this use the only fit pigment is zinc-white, the tints being obtained by adding ultramarine for blue tones, earth colors for yellow, brown and red tints, lamp black for the grays, and combinations of these pigments for the other desired tints.

The wood-work, unless of light colored wood finished in the natural state and varnished, should be painted exclusively with the same pigments, varnish being added if an enamel effect is desired. The floor, if too cold or too open for filling and "waxing," or varnishing, should be smoothed off, and after putting all seams, cracks, and nail-holes, should be painted with a good oil paint containing no lead; zinc-white, or a combination based on zinc-white, colored with iron oxides or earth colors ochre, sienna, umbers, metallic brown, etc., being used exclusively as pigments. Over this should be laid a removable rug, which can be taken up, aired and shaken at frequent intervals, the floor being well swept with water while the rug is up. The painted walls should also be washed at the periodical "cleaning" times.

Wall paper, curtains, carpets and deleterious paints are probably responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the introduction and propagation of many ailments, especially in children. White lead, which is among the least durable of pigments, is like all lead compounds, an active poison, and it is notable among paints for its tendency to crumble off the painted surface in the form of dust. Furthermore, as it blackens in the presence of the gases always found in dwelling houses, it is undesirable on aesthetic grounds. Zinc-white, on the other hand, is absolutely non-poisonous, has brilliant clear white color, which produces remarkably pure and brilliant tints with other colors, and is the most permanent of pigments, both as regards color and material.

A great deal of attention is usually paid to the food and clothing of children. It would be wise to extend this attention to the hygienic conditions of their ordinary surroundings.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

A very young housekeeper frequently makes the mistake of planning for a great variety of dishes when she might for the same outlay have the very best cuts of meat and an abundance of the substantial.

For pillows, table covers, screens, curtains or closet, doorway or bathroom window denim has unlimited possibilities.

Halls should be given large effects in striking colors. This adds to the staircase, gives a warm, comfortable, cozy look, and, above all, a style, especially if the hall is narrow.

A pretty way to treat the floors of bedrooms in summer home is to enamel them in the colors used on metal bedsteads. Moss-green shingle stain, the copper color that is used for roofs, and Dutch blue are particularly desirable. Whatever color is chosen let the wall covering match the floor and have the woodwork white. In a room treated after this manner a waistcoating of denim, or matting is very apt to offend, and the dull shades mentioned above for floor stain harmonize nicely with the new spring wall papers, matings and denims.

Bathe face and hands of a feverish person with warm water that has a bit of common soda dissolved in it. A few drops of alcohol or cologne is often pleasant to use to bathe the sick.

Never wear squeaking boots in a sickroom and avoid, as far as possible, garments that rustle.

A nurse should use care that no person having wet or even damp clothing should enter the sickroom. Never get out of patience with the whims of an invalid, but try to coax and soothe without irritating them.

Do not give sick people fried foods or anything highly seasoned. Avoid hot bread and biscuit and strong tea and coffee.

For use in polishing knives a handy device is formed of two flat pieces of material, having polishing cushions on their opposing faces, the upper member being pivoted on the lower to admit the knife blade between the two.

GOOD RECIPES.

Beef Tongue.—Boil a fresh beef tongue in the stock pot with salt, and soup vegetables until tender, which will be about one hour and a half, and put on a dish, garnishing with a pint of hot Milanese rice, made as follows: Chop fine a good-sized onion and fry in butter until a golden color; then add a cupful of rice and half dozen minced mushrooms; stir for two minutes and add one quart of boiling broth; stir lightly once, cook 15 minutes and add more broth at intervals as needed. About 10 minutes more will finish the cooking, then season

with one teaspoon of salt and one half teaspoon of pepper; add half a cup of grated Swiss cheese and serve.

Canned Corn Pudding.—One quart milk, five eggs, two tablespoonfuls white sugar, one dozen ears corn; grate the corn from the cob, but if canned chop fine; beat the corn and yolks together, stir hard and add butter, then the milk, gradually beating all the while; next the sugar and a little salt; lastly the whites; bake slowly at first in covered dish for an hour; remove cover and brown fine; half the quantity will do for four or five persons.

French Toast.—Cut stale bread into squares; dip into egg and milk; saturate quickly in olive oil or butter; place neatly in a dish and cover with hot sauce made by beating together the yolks of three eggs and half a cup of powdered sugar and a tablespoonful of butter; add a gill of boiling water; cook over the fire until creamy. If you use wine add four tablespoonfuls, or you may use vanilla or lemon.

Mealy Potatoes.—Always prefer the mealy to the waxy potato. If you like them very mealy, put them into cold water, boil up quickly, and then give them a good shaking in the pot when done. If mashed they must not be a damp, firm paste. They are excellent simply passed through a close wire sieve. Potatoes boiled or baked in their skins have more flavor than when cooked after peeling.

Baked Custard.—Put one and a half pints milk into saucepan with rind of one quarter lemon and one quarter pound sugar, and let this infuse for one half hour or until the milk is well flavored; whisk four eggs, yolks and whites, pour the milk on them, stirring all the while; strain the custard into a pie dish, grate a little nutmeg over the top and bake in a very slow oven for about one half hour or rather longer.

Oyster Sandwiches.—Take a pint of raw oysters and chop them very fine, after removing the mussels. Add salt and white pepper, with a little cayenne. Put them in the chafing dish, with a tablespoonful of butter and three tablespoonfuls of dry biscuit crumbs. After cooking for five minutes they are ready to make into sandwiches.

Lettuce Sandwiches.—Wash and crisp the lettuce, slice half a dozen new onions among the leaves. Have three eggs boiled hard and cold; cover the lettuce with the whites put through a potato ricer; then with the yolks in the same way. To be served with a thick mayonnaise dressing and a leaf of crisp, well-dried lettuce between the slices of bread.

Waffles.—To one pint of sour milk add three eggs, whites and yolks beaten separately, a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little warm water, a pinch of salt and flour enough to make a stiff batter. Bake upon waffle irons.

Lettuce Sandwiches.—Spread the bread with thick mayonnaise dressing and lay a leaf of crisp, well-dried lettuce between the slices of bread.

CURIOUS PHENOMENON.

Stream of Earth Said to Be Moving Down a Steep Valley in India.

Captain Roberts, of the British army, writes to Sir Martin Conway, the explorer of the Himalayas, of a curious phenomenon he has seen among the mountains of the extreme northeastern part of India, not far from the Upper Indus. There is a very narrow valley or nullah among these mountains, the head of which is about 12,000 feet and the foot about 5,000 feet above the sea level. The earth on the floor of this nullah is moving down toward the foot of the valley at the rate of about 600 feet a year. This estimate of the rate of movement is made from the position of trees that are growing on the surface, and every year are nearer the foot of the valley. The surface of the moving mass fills the bottom of the nullah, and is about 600 feet wide. As far as he is able to ascertain there is no ice or snow above or within the moving mass. The surface is undulating and looks a mountain-covered glacier, except that the grass is growing upon it. The neighboring villagers have made a few cultivation terraces upon the moving mass. In depressions on both sides of it the streams flow between the mass and the hillsides.

The natives say there is nothing new about the phenomenon, that the mass is always in very gradual motion, and though they till a part of the surface they have given up attempts to build houses on it because they always tumble down.

Though this information is made public without comment by so high an authority as Sir Martin Conway, the editor of Nature, in which it appears, seems inclined to regard it as a fish story and disclaims responsibility for it. If the information is correct it would seem that the slope of the rock underlying the alluvial mass is sufficiently steep to overcome the friction to a considerable extent, permitting a slow movement of the earth down the valley, as glaciers move to lower levels.

This phenomenon appears to be midway between the landslides that are frequent in mountain regions when the lower part of the earth mass becomes saturated with water, making the rock slope on which it rests slippery, and the very thick, black mud avalanches that Sir Martin Conway and other explorers have described as rushing down the steep nullahs in the Himalayas at the rate of several miles an hour.

NEW PAPER FIBER.

On account of the scarcity of raw material for the paper mills of Holland they now use the stalks of the potato plant, which can be bought of the farmers for 50 cents per ton.

TALES OF RUSSIAN FAMINE

AFFECTED AREA INCLUDES THE BLACK EARTH ZONE.

People are Living on Bark of Trees.—The State of the Country Hopeless and the Majority of the People Know It.

It is only now that the truth about the terrible famine which for many weeks has afflicted the best part of European Russia is permitted to reach the outside world. The district affected is bounded on the east by the Volga and on the west by an imaginary line drawn from Moscow to Kiev, which is the extreme southern point. In the north it is probable that the famine stretches as far as Archangel, though it is very difficult to obtain reliable information with regard to districts north of Nijni Novgorod. The affected area includes the celebrated black earth zone, which was once famous for its fertility, as well as the great grain districts of the Provinces of Samara, Saratoff, and Simbirsk.

Russia was last visited by a famine in 1891-92, but since that very severe visitation there has been only one exceptionally good year, and hence the peasants have not been able to recover from their losses in 1892, when they were obliged to slaughter 45 per cent. of their horses and cattle for want of fodder. Moreover, this year the landed gentry have been affected quite as much as the peasantry, and the series of bad years which they have gone through has so broken their resources that many of them are

VERGING ON DESTITUTION.

In the case of the peasantry it is reported that they have been compelled to still further reduce the number of their live stock. They are supporting life on all manner of substitutes for bread, including the bark of trees the thatches from the roofs of their huts, and even sawdust. Every effort is being made by the Government to prevent the terrible facts connected with the sufferings of the people from leaking out. But the vigorous champion of the Russian peasant, Count Tolstoy, has managed to obtain publicity for a few circumstances which are sufficiently indicative of the state of affairs. He says that statistical researches have shown that the Russian people consume, on the whole, 30 per cent. less food than the normal amount scientifically assumed to be necessary for the maintenance of health. He also points to facts which are calculated to show that during the last twenty years the men of the black earth region who have attained the age for military service have increasingly failed to satisfy the authorities of their fitness for such service. Besides, the census returns prove that, while the population reached its maximum rate of increase twenty years ago, that declining ever since, until it has at last touched zero. That is to say, the population is at a standstill, and everybody knows that when a population attains this stage it presently begins to decline.

Count Tolstoy then points to the appearance of the average Russian peasant of to-day, his emaciated body and sunken cheeks, and contrasts the condition of the rural population with that of the urban, whose physique, except in manufacturing towns, is generally magnificent. Count Tolstoy maintains that the people are so police-ridden that they have lost heart and hope, they have no spirit, and no energy, a general apathy has come over them, and they have become slothful and gin-sodden.

Count Tolstoy's picture is certainly not overdrawn. The state of the country is hopeless and the people know it. One of the worst features of agricultural Russia is the deforestation of the rural Russia is the deforestation of the country. The whole of Central Russia is practically denuded of trees, and this has been brought about in a little less than fifty years. The district in which Tourguenev, the novelist, and the personal friend of Tolstoy, used to shoot are now absolutely bare. This deforestation has of necessity affected the climate and has reduced the snow and rain falls, which are nothing like what they used to be. Snow is to Russia what the Nile is to Egypt; it is the fertilizer of the land. In the old days of serfdom the peasants were compelled by the landowners to dam up this snow in the spring so that it did not all run to waste in the rivers, but to-day these precautions can no longer be enforced. Leading Russian agriculturists and engineers maintain that the only possible way of saving off ruin is by the introduction of some system of irrigation, as in India. Of course, in olden days the forests retained a good deal of the snow even until June, and thus contributed to the humidity of the atmosphere.

LAND TENURE.

But the real cause of the depressed condition of Russian agriculture is the system of land tenure. The land does not belong individually to the peasant, but collectively to the village. The village is responsible for the taxes and, hence, one wealthy peasant may have to pay for the thriftless ones. The consequence is that a system of usury has sprung up, by means of which the poorer peasants are absorbed into the power of their wealthier and often unscrupulous neighbors. The village commune is also a sort of trades union, which can enforce its terms on the landed gentry, who are often in dire straits for labour, the peasant frequently refusing to work for them. The system upon which the land was allotted to the peasants was also entirely wrong. The peasantry have a firmly rooted idea that originally all the land belonged to them, and that the gentry grabbed it and enslaved them. Hence, when the serfs

were liberated they thought the landed gentry should return the stolen land. The Government, however, only carved off certain portions of the estates and allotted these portions to the peasantry, who had to pay for them by annual instalments. The gentry, however, were paid at once and in full by the Government, and immediately got rid of the money in the approved Russian manner, in feasting, gambling, etc. Their grievance is that the Government, by giving the peasants land, has deprived the gentry of their labourers, while the peasants complain that they have not received sufficient land. This is indeed the case, so that the present state of affairs is that nobody is pleased and nearly everybody ruined. The estate owner can get no labour; the peasant has not enough land to support himself. Thus Russia is face to face with bankruptcy, and anybody who knows the real state of affairs in the country can not doubt the sincerity of Russia's desire for disarmament.

ARTIFICIAL GEMS.

Is it to be wondered at that women who possess magnificent gems are having them copied in artificial stones? asks the London Daily Mail. The more noted a woman is for the heirlooms and splendid gaw-gaws she possesses the more certain she is to become the mark of the light-fingered gentry who spend their time hunting down jewel boxes and lurking around railway platforms. Whereof there is a very large demand for artificial jewellery nowadays.

So exquisite are the imitation diamonds, rubies, pearls, emeralds, and the other gems produced, and so perfect their setting, that even experts are set a hard task when asked to determine their genuineness off-hand.

The average jeweller, let alone the layman, is quite unable, without the aid of chemicals, to distinguish the false from the true.

Among the most difficult stones to judge are sapphires. The examination of real ones is always made in the open air, as indeed is the case with many gems, and only at a particular hour and under particular atmospheric conditions, all of course regulated by the amount, direction, and quality of the light.

The afternoon of a cloudy day is the usual time chosen. Diamonds are not so difficult to judge as some other gems. There are some simple tests which may generally be relied upon.

One of them has been given thus: Take a card and bore a small round hole in it, and then look at the hole through the stone. If the diamond be false you will see two holes; if it be genuine, only one. Again, put your finger on the other side of the gem and look through it. If you can see the grain of the skin your diamond is artificial, otherwise it is genuine. Of course these tests are not absolutely infallible with the best-made modern counterfeits, but they will guide you to the truth in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. Still it must always be remembered that artificial jewels are being improved every day, and consequently rendered more difficult to detect.

Some of these sham stones are very costly, and their settings are as good in every way as those bestowed on real gems. In such cases the difference would invite suspicion. In many cases sets are made up of genuine and false stones mixed. It is no uncommon thing to see an ornament, consisting of a large artificial diamond surrounded by small genuine rubies.

It is not by any means therefore in all cases to be assumed that the wearing of false jewellery is an evidence of vulgarity. On the contrary, the gems worn by a woman of limited means are more likely to be genuine than those which adorn her wealthier sister.

A poor woman dare not appear bedecked with a magnificent tiara of false diamonds, for every one would know at once that they were only imitations. With the wife of a millionaire it is different. The public know that she can afford real gems, and consequently do not question the genuineness of those which she may be pleased to wear, and these are very frequently false. Few women care to run the risk of having their valuable jewellery stolen, so wear the counterfeit in public, while the genuine reposes in safety in the bank.

Family jewels, which have been handed down from generation to generation, are most closely and secretly guarded. Their value is enhanced by historic association, and they are not taken from the safe half a dozen times in a generation. But they are copied faithfully, and in this guise frequently worn in public.

HOPE FOR BALD HEADS.

The purveyors of hair lotions warranted to cure baldness have made not a little capital out of the microbe, as a vulnerable point of attack. This vantage ground, however, has of late been abandoned, and the Deichler theory is receiving strong support at the hands of those who are interested in the sale of the materials employed. Dr. Deichler bases his treatment on the fact that the hair contains a substance known as gelatine, and he, therefore, administers colloids in different forms. Together with a tonic regime, he gives the patient bouillons prepared by the prolonged boiling of two parts of meat and one part of bones. The bones are frequently replaced by gelatine, or by shavings of deer's horns, which are rich in ossifying cartilage. The effect of the treatment is seen strikingly in old men who acquire a kind of rejuvenation of the skin, and a distinct vigor of the scalp, which increases the hair growth. In younger men the changed condition of hair is seen hardly less distinctly.

CHILDREN LABELED.

The children of the poor in Japan are nearly always labeled in case they should stray from their homes while their mothers are engaged on domestic duties.