

**THE ANNUAL COMPLAINT.**

[Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph.]

Again there's sound of scrubbing,  
Again the floors are bare,  
And soap and whitewash odors  
Are floating through the air.  
There's trouble in the kitchen,  
Confusion in the hall,  
For women are housecleaning—  
They do it every fall.

A chunk of soap and bucket  
Are lurking on the stairs,  
And woe to weary hubby  
Who's taken unawares,  
There's paint in rash profusion,  
But it is never seen  
Until the clothes are showing  
Big stains of brown or green.

Tacks here and there are scattered,  
And words we can't repeat  
Are heard when they are sticking  
In some poor victim's feet.  
The furniture is shifted  
To unaccustomed place,  
And in the dusk it bruises  
The unsuspecting face.

On clothe-lines heavy carpets  
In dusty silence hang—  
Put there for worried hubby  
To pull and turn and bang.  
In vain he makes excuses  
Complaints of pain in head,  
For they must all be dusted  
Before he goes to bed.

There's little time for cooking,  
And hungry wights must wait  
In spite of all their protests  
Against a meal so late.  
And should we ask the reason  
Of anger 'mong the men,  
We get this explanation—  
"They're cleaning house again!"

**The Fashions.**

Now that the trees are beginning to shed their leaves it is time to think of comfortable garments for autumn wear, tweeds and Meltons, warm serges, and fancy woollens with cloth-like texture and silky little designs thrown up and catching the light as only true silk can. As to the modes of making, they are varied indeed. The trimmed skirt reads this variety all over the gown, whereas last season it was confined to the bodice. We are, however, free from the elaborate skirt trimmings we had begun to dread when once the severity of that part of the costume began to disappear. And, above all, the polonaise has stayed away. Here is a matter for gratitude. That awful polonaise! Some of us can study it in photographs of friends and relatives taken early in the eighties, when "draping" the folds of the wretched thing caused many a bitter feud between dressmaker and customer. Failures were so numerous! And as to ruffles and frills and bands of braid. Fashion has dealt kindly with us and kept all such in strictest moderation. It is true, there are skirts composed of flounces from waist to ankle, but these are few and far between. In spring there may be a fresh invasion of trimmings and frillings, but at the present moment we may be thankful for our immunities, and let the future with its possibilities bide its time.

Tartan capes are all the vogue in Paris, and the prettiest of them fasten in at the waist at the back with a dainty little buckle, which serves as the point of departure for a girle of the tartan which, passing round the waist, fastens in front, keeping the jacket part of the cape close to the figure, protecting it in the most efficient manner. Plain capes are covered with braiding, and though this is often produced by machinery, it has a very handsome and rich effect.

There is a perfect rage for feathers, not only on hats and toques and in boas, but in the structure of capes and collar-ettes. Long, single feathers are so arranged in perpendicular fashion as to form a cape, the stems starting from the neck, where they are pressed closely together and sewn firmly on a strong foundation. Thence they spread out, growing wider as they descend, and making a covering both warm and light. The stiffness of the stems is too skillfully managed to be any hindrance to comfort. The points of them are sewn into a band of stout linen, which forms the under part of a collar, the upper portion of which rises and spreads outward, being lined with feather tips.

Phasant's feathers, too long neglected, are among the novelties of the hour. The lovely colors of them must be seen to be appreciated, after having been thoroughly cleaned and dressed. The original wearers would scarcely recognise them. They are cut and clipped and sewn in long lengths for trimming coats, zouaves, and capes. Burnished until they reflect every ray of light, they form a really beautiful adornment, and one that involves no cruel barbarity, such as is inseparable from wearing crepe and aigrettes.

Beaver-colored velvet hats are much worn. The color goes with almost everything, and admits of the introduction of the bright tints now so universally adopted in millinery. One of these hats has the velvet covered brim turned sharply up at the left side with a cluster of shaded gold and orange chrysanthemums. A toque composed of the same material has a crown of gold satin thickly besprinkled with jet and orange sequins. A cock's comb frilling of orange velvet trims it at the left side, being held upright by a large paste buckle, the stones in which glitter like real diamonds. For wearing with a crimson cloth cape covered with black braiding there is a crimson velvet toque trimmed with eight or nine black feathers, and quite half a dozen jet buckles beautifully out and responsive to every ray of light.

Fashion is more liberal this season than ever before in the variety of wraps which she offers for our approval. Apparently there is something to suit every style of figure, every fancy, and certainly the problem of selecting a becoming wrap ought to be a simple one with such a diversity from which to choose. There are long and short coats, dolmans,

pelerines, Russian blouse jackets with end, and all sorts and conditions of capes of any length between a shoulder cape and the one which reaches to the finger tips as the arm rests at the side.

Manufacturers report that in the sale of fur garments and fur trimmings already there has been transacted an initial business equal to the entire trade of many former years.

The Roman plaid and stripe craze has reached even the region of neck trimming, and stock collars, flaring bows, rosettes, and scarfs in gorgeous colorings appear among the fancies in the made-up goods departments of all city stores.

The new beautiful tint of Venetian red, like the Neapolitan and royal dyes in blue, is found only in expensive materials that cannot be imitated with any success in inferior textiles.

The fur blouse which will usurp the place of both bodice and wrap is one of the leading novelties of the season. There are likewise fancy blouses for very youthful wearers, made of Scotch tartan and plain vivid reds of many different shades, but somewhat toned in effect by their velvet trimming.

Narrow velvet ribbon still occupies a conspicuous position in the elaboration of many winter gowns. On imported modes for promenade wear, alternate bands of narrow fur and an equal width in velvet ribbon form a rich garniture from the hem to the knees.

A smart little French jacket, made of Neapolitan blue ladies' cloth, is trimmed about the waist with arching rows of black velvet ribbons, put on to simulate a deep corselet. The facings of the very high collars and revers are of Persian patterned brocatelle, closely resembling shaded silk embroideries wrought upon a dark red background. These are bound with the blue cloth, and overlaid with a row of the narrow velvet ribbon. The cuffs are finished to match.

Chatelaines with many trinkets, including a purse made of gold rings like chain armor dangling at the side, are in fashion again.

The old-fashioned pelerine is in vogue again, and it is made of Persian lamb and sable. One very handsome one of lamb, with a high flaring collar, has very long ends decorated lavishly with marten tails. The outlines of the figure and waist are defined in front, and altogether it is a vast improvement on the long cape.

Hair bone cloth is a new material for facing skirts, lining revers, and all other purposes where a little stiffness is required.

**THE HOUSEHOLD.**

The mourning-like garb so long worn by maids and waitresses is being displaced by pure white gowns. Certainly a fresh white gown, a sheer muslin apron with the folds still in it, and a becoming cap are more appropriate for a well-behaved and brilliantly lighted dining room than the sable, nun-like uniform, and such a costume is much more comfortable for the wearer.

Beautiful baskets of quaint shapes, filled with flowers, are decorations now much used for the centre of dining tables. They are without handles, and from among the blossoms in the centre springs a tripe ribbon bow gracefully wired. To add to the charm of this decoration little rosettes with ends made of narrower ribbon are often placed so as to peep out here and there from the basket itself.

Many of the hot delicacies that appear upon our menus are best when served in the same dishes that they are cooked in. For this purpose graceful open-work silver frames may be found holding little brown glazed pottery dishes, thus making what would otherwise be an unattractive receptacle a thing of beauty worthy of a prominent place at a handsome table.

Physicians usually sneer at the reputed merits of beef tea as an article of invalid diet, and declare that by no ordinary method of manufacturing it is any particular nutrient derived. Beef juice is another matter, and that may be extracted according to the following directions: Have a juicy piece of beef cut one and a half inches thick from the tender part of the round or the rump, taking away all the fat. Heat a frying-pan and rub it lightly with a bit of fat, just enough to keep the meat from sticking, but leaving, of course, no fat in the pan. Lay the beef on the hot pan, adding a little salt and cutting into it as it heats. Press with a knife and turn over and over, but do not let it cook much. Then take from the fire and press thoroughly in a lemon-squeezer.

It is certainly injurious to the teeth to subject them to an extreme of temperature, and, although most persons eat of frozen foods and drink iced water freely, it has become a question whether hot water—so often recommended for dyspeptics as an ante-breakfast beverage—may not hurt the teeth. It can, at any rate, do no harm to take it through a tube or a straw.

Lemon and orange jelly are pretty and toothsome served together. Although some cooks make these dishes so stiff with gelatine that they are leathery, it is usually considered really nicer to see a quivering, unformed mass of jelly rather than a moulded form in any device, if the latter calls for that unappetizing thickness of the materials employed.

Beautiful portières are made of rich, dark moss-green corduroy, with a lining of the old-fashioned green and black calico, recently revived as cotton print. It is quaint in design and coloring, and has a high, stately finish that gives it a much handsomer look than is really its due. The possessor of one pair of such curtains herself is unable to decide which side is prettier, the corduroy or the lining.

A hot bath is usually rather decried as provocative of colds and other evils. Every one knows of cases of severe illness occurring from exposure to the outer air soon after such ablutions. And yet nothing is more refreshing, as nothing is more harmless, if properly taken. This means that one should use the hot bath, as one does that of very cold water, merely as a plunge, followed by quick and thorough rubbings and massage.

Occasionally the art of "piping" as it is called by confectioners, is useful to the cook. Any deft-handed person can

make very pretty ornaments with icing by the aid of no other tools than a small bag of stout paper, such as grocery use. If, in addition to this, a few tubes are employed, and if the worker has any taste whatever in that particular direction, something quite elaborate and intricate may be evolved.

It is possible to have fringed doilies in presentable condition, but napkins and tablecloths that are hemmed are most satisfactory for frequent usage and many washings. A new comb, with coarse teeth, is best to keep the fringe in order, but no care will long preserve anything so delicate. Therefore, those who admire the pretty fringed table-linen in its first estate should consider its perishable qualities.

**A SCIENTIST SAVED.**

**AN INTERVIEW WITH A COLLEGE PRESIDENT.**

**HIS MANY DUTIES CAUSED HIS HEALTH TO BREAK DOWN—DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS RESTORE HIM TO ACTIVITY.**

From the Republican, Columbus, Ind.

The Hartsville College, situated at Hartsville, Indiana, was founded years ago in the interest of the United Brethren Church, when the State was mostly a wilderness, and colleges were scarce. The college is well known throughout the country, former students having gone into all parts of the world.



PROF. ALVIN P. BARNABY.

A reporter recently called at this famous seat of learning and was shown into the room of the President, Prof. Alvin P. Barnaby. When last seen by the reporter Prof. Barnaby was in delicate health. To-day he was apparently in the best of health. In response to an enquiry the professor said:

"Oh, yes, I am much better than for some time. I am now in perfect health, but my recovery was brought about in rather a peculiar way."

"Tell me about it," said the reporter. "Well, to begin at the beginning," said the professor, "I studied too hard when at school, endeavoring to educate myself for the profession. After completing the common course I came here, and graduated from the theological course. I entered the ministry and accepted the charge of a United Brethren church at a small place in Kent County, Mich. Being of an ambitious nature, I applied myself diligently to my work and studies. In time I noticed that my health was failing. My trouble was indigestion, and this with other troubles brought on nervousness."

"My physician prescribed for me for some time, and advised me to try a change of climate. I did as he requested and was some improved. Soon after, I came here as professor in physics and chemistry, and later was financial agent of this college. The change agreed with me, and for a while my health was better, but my duties were heavy, and again I found my trouble returning. This time it was more severe and in the winter I became completely prostrated. I tried various medicines and different physicians. Finally, I was able to return to my duties. In the spring of 1896 I was elected president of the college. Again I had considerable work, and the trouble, which had not been entirely cured, began to affect me, and last fall I collapsed. I had different doctors, but none did me any good. Professor Bowman, who is professor of natural science, told me of his experience with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and urged me to give them a trial, because they had benefited him in a similar case, and I concluded to try them.

The first box helped me, and the second gave great relief, such as I had never experienced from the treatment of any physician. After using six boxes of the medicine I was entirely cured. To-day I am perfectly well. I feel better and stronger than for years. I certainly recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to similar sufferers and over-worked people."

Oh, how I shall thank God for that moment, if it ever comes, wherein I know the voice of my soul has found those who will listen! How happy,

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even though the sun be less than an hour above the horizon and I already shiver in the winds from the cave of death, how happy I shall be for this one blossom of the long vine of my years! Happy in knowing that in the sun and dew it may develop into the fruit of which many shall eat and be glad!—Birch Arnold.

**A ROYAL WILL.**

**The Dowager Duchess De Montpensier's Last Will—Generous Gifts to Catholic Institutions.**

The will of her Royal Highness the Most Serene Infanta of Spain, Dona Maria Louisa Fernando de Bourbon-Borbon, Dowager Duchess de Montpensier (daughter of King Ferdinand VII. of Spain), and sister of Queen Isabella II. of Spain, who died at her Palace of San Telmo, in Seville, on the 1st of February last, aged 55 years, and whose personal estate in the United Kingdom is valued at £65,023, bears date the 25th February, 1897, with a codicil and second holograph will dated the 20th June, 1897. The will states:

"I am a Roman Catholic Apostolic Christian, and I believe in all the Mysteries and Sacraments which our Holy Mother Church believes in and acknowledges, and I declare that I shall die in that belief." The Duchess prohibited the embalming of her body, and ordered that it should be abroad in the habit of St. Francis, barefooted and with sandals, and taken to the Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo in the Escorial, in order to be buried in the Pantheon. She ordered that her obsequies should be simple and humble, and that the money which would otherwise have been expended upon them should be devoted to Masses for the repose of her soul. The will continues: "I order that my executors shall remit as soon as possible to our Most Holy Father Pope Leo XIII. the sum of 5,000 pesetas as a very small remembrance of her who during her life has been his most devout admirer and daughter, and I ask the said Most Holy Father of his kindness to deign to apply one Mass for the eternal rest of my soul. I also direct my executors to pay the customary alms for the pious work of the Holy Places of Jerusalem. They are to distribute 125,000 pesetas amongst the most necessitous benevolent institutions, and the poorest convents, preference being given to the Little Sisters of the Poor in the Calle Oriente and to the Sisters of the Cross." The Duchess directs that the necessary sum for providing for the maintenance of three scholarships in the Conciliar Seminary of Seville be invested in paper of the public debt, and the duration of these scholarships shall be as long as the said seminary is in existence. Afterwards the invested capital shall pass to her heirs, as also in the event of the Government prohibiting these foundations, or attempting to take charge of or interfere in the same. The appointment of the parties interested studying for the ecclesiastical profession, and who hold the said scholarships, shall appertain to her children, the Comtesse de Paris and Don Alfonso de Bourbon-Borbon with the approval of the Archbishop of Seville, or the Vicar, should the seat be vacant. Having given part of the garden of the Palace of San Telmo as a park and recreation ground for the inhabitants of Seville, where she had resided for so many years, as a remembrance of her and as a token of her love, the Duchess left her palace of San Telmo and its garden to the Archbishop of Seville for the use of the Seminary. After mentioning other bequests, she will continues: "I hope my children will respect everything I have directed, but if either of them by ill advice should in the least oppose my wish, by that sole act it shall be understood that I benefit in all that the law may allow me the other child who respects and regards my dispositions." The Duchess prohibits the

judicial authority to intervene in her testamentary affairs, and the will ends: "Lastly, I desire to set forth that I forgive with all my heart all such persons who may have offended me or who may have done any act prejudicial to me, and also I earnestly beg everyone to grant me their entire forgiveness, because, although I have no remembrance of my having given any offence or caused any harm, I wish to record this request in testimony of humility, in order that in the event of my having unwittingly caused any pain to any person, including my employees and attendants, they may grant me their pardon and pray God for the eternal rest of my soul."

**The Effect of Fifty Years Imprisonment.**

It is not often we get such an object lesson depicting the results of the present day prison system as that which occurred a short while ago at the prison of Pankraz Bohemia. A prisoner named Josef Heli celebrated his fiftieth year's imprisonment, and when the director asked him what small treat he would like in commemoration of the event he replied: "Take me to the courts and let me see another man sentenced."

This was the effect which fifty years of imprisonment had on this convict, with the ominous name. His only desire was to see others who were about to undergo similar treatment to that which he himself had endured for so long. Such a reply would surely indicate that the maker thereof more nearly approximated to some non-human stage of existence than to the one of which he was ostensibly a member.

The foremost nations of the world are certainly taking an extraordinary long time to evolve a prison system which, instead of producing beings like Josef Heli, shall turn out men and women who are a thousand-fold more human and humane than when they entered the institution. This can be done. So long as a human being is not absolutely useless there is always hope for him. The divine spark can always, by the right treatment, be made to burn so brightly as to transform the whole character.

It cannot be denied that in this direction we are certainly travelling, but we are progressing so slowly that, to those impatient for radical reforms, we hardly seem to be moving at all. So long, however, as the prison system of the world leans more to punitive than to reformative measures, so long will the present inhumane and unsatisfactory conditions continue to testify both to our lack of belief in the possibility of transforming a criminal into a presentable human being and to the length of time it takes to permeate society with ideas whose only ends are for its benefit and advantage.

**PATENT REPORT.**

Below will be found the only complete report of patents granted this week by the United States Government to Canadian Inventors. This report is prepared specially for this paper by Messrs. Marion & Marion, 185 St. James street, Montreal.

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A clergyman was very anxious to introduce some hymn-books into the church, and arranged with the clerk that the latter was to give out the notice immediately after the sermon. The clerk, however, had a notice of his own to give out with reference to the baptism of infants. At the close of the sermon he arose and announced that "all those who

have children whom they wish to have baptised, please send their names at once to the clerk." The clergyman, who was stone deaf, assumed that the clerk was giving out the hymn book notice, and immediately arose and said—"And I would say for the benefit of those who haven't any, that they may be had at the vestry any day from three to four o'clock; the ordinary little ones at one shilling each and special ones at red backs at one shilling and fourpence."

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