

# Woman and the World.

## The Famous Woman Traveler.

(An Interview with Miss Kingsley.)

Mrs. Sarah Tooley, in the Young Woman, publishes a very interesting account of her interview with Miss Kingsley, whose adventures in the West Coast of Africa have occasioned no little stir both among women and among geographers. Mrs. Tooley says:

"The first object which greets a visitor upon entering Miss Kingsley's room is a grinning black idol, whose body bristles with nails, each one of which records the trophy of a human sacrifice. Upon his wrist the blood-thirsty figure carried the bracelet of a woman who was sacrificed—a very innocent-looking little bangle."

If there is anything in psychometry, the influence attaching to those gruesome relics can hardly be regarded as healthy or inspiring, but a lady who could sleep composedly in a hut over the remains of a cannibal feast, can hardly be regarded as peculiarly sensitive to outside impressions. Mrs. Tooley says:

"Miss Kingsley is no dilettante traveler seeking adventure; but she is a deep, scientific student, with all the love for natural objects which distinguished her uncle, Charles Kingsley, and she has inherited from her scholarly father, Dr. Kingsley, the traveler, not only a passion for adventure, but a capacity for deep study. It is the object of her life to research into the social customs, folklores and fetiches of the African tribes, as well as the natural history of the fishes of the Congo."

She took to fishes, she says, because she was a Kingsley. All the Kingsleys have a passion for fishing, due probably to the trout streams of Devonshire in which they passed their boyhood.

## THE LINGUA FRANCA OF THE WEST COAST.

Mrs. Tooley asked her how she was able to communicate with the natives. She replied:

"German and French are helpful, but the best medium for communication is trade English—a kind of jargon in which native forms of speech are Anglicized. It is an arrangement of our words adapted to suit native ideas."

It was the death of Miss Kingsley's parents which compelled her to seek a tonic in travel, and spend some time in the Canary Islands, where she was able to gratify for the first time her love of natural history research.

"And were the Canary Islands the high road to Gambia Land?" I asked. "It was while I was in the Islands," she replied, "that I heard very dreadful accounts of the danger and horrors of traveling in West Africa, and I felt, must go—just feminine curiosity, you know."

## WOMEN AS TRAVELERS.

Unlike Miss Dowrie, and other travelers of her sex, Miss Kingsley refused to discard the skirt. She wore a serge skirt and cotton blouse, through all her explorations.

"I always went on foot or in my canoe. Horses cannot be used because of the tsetse fly, and the entozoon."

"And do you think, Miss Kingsley, that a woman can undertake travel involving so much physical endurance and exposure with impunity?"

"Certainly," she replied, "it seems to me such nonsense to make a fuss about everything which a woman happens to do. As a matter of fact, I believe that woman has more deep-down endurance than a man; and amongst savage tribes it is the woman who does the hardest work, and are often stronger than the men. I owe my escape from malarial fever while I was in Africa to the fact that I never drank water which had not been boiled; you can imagine how necessary that precaution was when I was traveling in Kanem, where it claimed a claim, nor care to have it claimed for them, that woman is superior to man."

While this is an effective position for women to take, facts sustain Mr. Lane's assertion in regard to the State who are lending a hand in support of the pending suffrage amendment. At the request of the Political Equality Club, of Alameda, he addressed a large audience on "Civil Government—Not a Political, but a Divine Right." He set forth with power and eloquence woman's equality with man in all the avenues of life, and even claimed superiority for her in moral and spiritual development, as demonstrated in the church and home. He said he had seen a beautiful home without a man in it, but he had never seen a home without a woman in it, and that the government without the woman—that he could conceive of good government without woman alone, but not with man alone.

To this some of the members of the club took exception, and protested through the Daily Argus that they do claim, not care to have it claimed for them, that woman is superior to man.

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ous monster, but I assure you he is one of the most affable gentlemen I know. People often express surprise that I could go about among natives who were in such complete undress. One gets so accustomed to seeing them like that that you don't think about it. Just as you cease, after a time, to be upset by the unpleasant odor of their bodies. It is very sickening and upsetting at first, but you get used to it."

## A NOVEL VIEW OF CONJUGAL BLISS.

"I suppose, Miss Kingsley, that the African woman is a very degraded specimen of humanity?"

"Not altogether; her position has been greatly exaggerated by travelers, and as most of them were men, they had small opportunity for judgment. As a woman, I could mix freely with them and study their domestic life, and I used to have long talks with the fat old witch-doctors, and gleaned a lot of information. I believe, on the whole, that the African married woman is happier than the majority of English wives, because if the husband gets bad she can poison him off and get someone else killed for it."

## "Used to Nice Things."

(Harper's Bazar.)

"One cannot talk with her for fifteen minutes without discovering that she is not accustomed to nice things," was the assertion made of a woman who had recently acquired wealth.

"How does she show it?" I asked. "By never admiring a handsome article owned by another person. She is so anxious to have people imagine that she has had always the best things of this life, that she dreads to admit her hearers guess that she never owned the real thing herself until it is too late."

It was the way with human make-believes. In New York the country visitor hesitates to show an interest in the wares displayed in the shop windows, while the inhabitant of the city pauses to gaze with interest at the latest thing. The man who has always lived on plain roast and boiled simulates contemptuous familiarity with salads and entrees, while the genuine epicure expresses enthusiastic appreciation of delicate flavoring and piquant seasoning. He who is sure of the ground on which he stands is not afraid to stamp or walk heavily, while he whose understanding is shaky treads exceedingly delicately. Yes, people who are not used to nice things seldom admit anything. They prefer to criticize. They think criticism of an article argues familiarity with it."

## Women Superior to Men.

From the Woman's Journal.

Rev. Mr. Lane, of Alameda, Cal., is one of the many clergymen in that State who are lending a hand in support of the pending suffrage amendment. At the request of the Political Equality Club, of Alameda, he addressed a large audience on "Civil Government—Not a Political, but a Divine Right." He set forth with power and eloquence woman's equality with man in all the avenues of life, and even claimed superiority for her in moral and spiritual development, as demonstrated in the church and home. He said he had seen a beautiful home without a man in it, but he had never seen a home without a woman in it, and that the government without the woman—that he could conceive of good government without woman alone, but not with man alone.

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up at all. On this point the New York Tribune lately had a few sensible paragraphs:

"When my first child was born," said Mrs. A. "I had the usual young mother's craze for a daintily kept baby. The baby was one of those gorgeous little affairs, with frocks which Victoria, I am sure, would have thought much too fine for the royal children—besides every conceivable fancy in which the most luxurious minded infant could by any possibility be attired. I used to gloat over the sachet-scented, exquisite little belongings, and the moment I was up and about the baby's birth I began to play doll with my small daughter, decking her out in first one thing and then another."

"I had one of those fussy French nurses, immaculate as a new pin; and between us we scrubbed and polished that poor baby until it's a marvel it didn't fade away before our eyes. After a bath in almond meal-scented water, with plenty of Lubin and sweet-smelling talcum, she did look a darling in her sheer, ribbioned gaperies, and I foolishly mother, never noticed her languor and waxen skin."

"I did take note that her hair wouldn't grow; that worried me, for, no matter how becomingly dressed, a child with a billiard-ball style of coiffure does not realize the fondest dream of the maternal heart. I sewed doll's crimps in her bonnets, which was all very well for outdoors, but inadequate for home, so finally I called in the doctor."

"He was a grumpy person, very curt and not over-civil at times. Bathed too much, he said, briefly. 'Look at her skin—all the life washed out of it. Too much care given that child. Let her get dirty and stay dirty. Nothing better for children than judicious neglect.'"

"It was a new idea and I went to work at it. Very shortly we went to our country home, and I noticed the farmers' almost any thing of country food, sat in puddles and went bare-headed whether the rain fell or the sun scorched. They peeped, but the fact remained that, as babies, they were sturdy and rosy, and mine wasn't; and I concluded to try judicious neglect."

"I invested in gingham pinafores and stout shoes, dumped a load of clean sand at the side door, and inaugurated a perpetual feast of mud-pies. Pauline was instructed not to play in the extreme mud, and baby began to live the life of a young animal left to the beneficent care of sunshine and fresh air, undisturbed save at regular intervals for food and sleep."

"I bought a pig that she might hang over the pen and tickle piggy's back with a stick. It afforded her hours of pure rapture to echo the pig's grunts with her silver corn, and in some mysterious fashion the association was conducive to health. I never could understand why, only that she would always return, becoming and serene, and if to a nap, slept better after having spent this pleasant period with her porcine friend."

"I bought chickens that she might feed them, and other doves and other pets about the place, finding that animals gave interest but no overstimulus to the baby nerves. In short, I never had my way dolly again. In the autumn I carried home a blooming, sturdy little maid, whose splendid spirits and perfect health more than compensated for occasional mudstains and torn pinafores."

## Violetty Perfume Tip.

"My! what a flowery whiff. That handkerchief must have been literally steeped in violets," exclaimed one girl to another who had just shaken out from its folds a fragrant square of linen.

"Not steeped in violets, my dear," "but boiled in orris water. The effect is the same, so where's the odds? On wash-days I supply the dresser with good-sized pieces of orris root, and she throws it into the water where my handkerchiefs are boiling. When they come up off the ironing board they are as radiant as orris can be. Then I slip them between the folds of a sachet filled with violet powder, and they never lose their fragrance. Violet and orris can be discovered, can make a real violet's odor faint with envy."—Philadelphia Record.

## How to Iron Table Cloths.

Table cloths should be so ironed that the folds or creases should be as firm as leather, and in the direction. The best effect is that produced by only one fold through the center. This, however, necessitates considerable ironing, and the ironing board is a most useful piece of furniture. Many housekeepers have for each table cloth a stick as long as the cloth is wide when folded through the center. These sticks, which are about the thickness of a broom-handle, are covered with several folds of flannel and then with muslin. The sticks are then folded and ironed well on each side one end of it is pinned to the covered stick, and then it is rolled up loosely so as not to crease it. The sticks are slipped into a long narrow bag and laid in the linen closet.—Table Talk.

## A Strange Case.

The Boston Globe has had a symposium on the subject of the possibility of miracles at the present day. Most of the contributors are preachers. Some contend that miracles are just as likely to occur now as they ever were, while others declare there are no miracles now because the world does not need them. This last is a very mistaken impression, indeed, for if there ever was a time when mankind needed miracles to help them it is just now. The greatest miracle of all would be one that showed them how to help themselves.

Meanwhile, as the world is in progress day by day at this very moment at Battle Creek, Mich., if the newspaper accounts are reliable. If a miracle is something to be credited to the known laws of nature, then this is one of the greatest miracles that ever occurred. A lady