

HOME AND FARM.

An English correspondent says: To recur once more to the question of American bred horses for the British cavalry, let us look at the precise state of things. There are to-day but 11,800 horses available for 18,300 non-commissioned officers and men in the British cavalry, and a cavalier without a horse is not a very useful being. But we have 6,500 of these anomalies. Then the proportion of horses sick is always greater than that of men sick; so we may take it that there are 8,000 British cavalymen without beasts to carry them. The defect in the artillery is nearly as great, owing to the batteries only being horsed for the peace establishment of guns. Thus whenever we are in a bit of trouble we shall want at least 10,000 horses from beyond sea at, say, \$250 each. Meanwhile we shall be glad to get decent horses at \$200 each rising 4 years. And those which for any reason are unfitted for cavalry or artillery work would still be worth for the Army Service Corps \$175. Now, farmers on limestone lands across the Atlantic, don't speak all at once, but still let us hear from you."

In the effort to make sure it does not spoil much pork is salted over-much. It can indeed be freshened, but the meat itself, after being entirely saturated with brine, is never exactly what it might have been. We would do better to make more pork into bacon. Partially salt it, and then complete the curing process by smoking, as is done with shoulders and hams. These are by no means the only parts of the hog that are better preserved thus. So long as salted meats are so important a part of the diet through the year among farmers, they owe it to themselves to see that they are made as good as possible with the material used.

OUR COSY CORNER.

The making of hats is no longer a trade, but a "study," as it consists in a reproduction of old styles. The modiste is no longer a skilled milliner, but a student of history—a designer—an artist.

The directoire and empire styles of dressing demand a complement of hat, not bonnet, as hats were much more worn a century ago than bonnets, except, indeed, the huge "poke," which I see no one has yet had the courage to adopt.

The coming bonnet is to be unroofed. The great desideratum will be to have knots, folds, tufts and curls of hair appearing in company with little flots of ribbon, spans of jet, knots of ribbon velvet and wild wood blossoms. The shapes are all low, flat, saucer-shaped, no crown whatever, or where there is one it lies quite close to the head, raised from the face by a simple band, with insertion of flat, mashed-looking floral face trimming.

Hats will be all flaring directoire fashion and will be noted for being "seen through." "Lace straw," a sort of open work braid, very fine, delicate and Frenchy, will be seen, but most of the hats will be of net, dotted, figured or plain, mounted on silk wire, without any foundation—thin effects everywhere.

Lace flowers and foliage will be the burden of trimming. Sometimes the latter alone.

Flowers are chiefly wild, with some of the simpler garden blossoms. A dainty little creation consists of a head bow and a dainty wreath of primroses. Chrysanthemums will be fashionable. I do not know how the violet craze is to end. They are so becoming, lady-like and popular that we cannot bear to see them go, although the stores are draping their pillars and counters with them. They still dot the most stylish churches and theatres. A gentleman just returned from Paris tells me they are still being worn there, but that here the fashion is madly overdone.

Yellow bullion will appear delightful. If you buy the best it will not tarnish; any other will.

The description of a few model hats may be helpful. So imagine:

Two rows of moss about one-half inch wide and some distance apart. Two bows of black velvet ribbon of ordinary neck width forming the crown and—that is all! Two stiff Nile green wigs, with stiff tuft for front, dotted net between. Large directoire black net shirred on wire (no foundation) flowers, just as if you had pulled them up by the roots from a country hill-side—grass, weeds and all just as they came—a young wild rose-slip in bud, and laid over the flat top root in front. Black net embroidered in scroll and wheat ears in bullion, with yellow and green ears in tuft to left. A Langtry toque with rim of crimson velvet and folded crown of cream silk, embroidered in moss rose buds—band of Nile green velvet, shell pink roses in front, bullion border to net crown.

On a lovely blonde I saw a wreath of violets with a huge violet-colored orchid rearing its great animal-like head above them for the front raise.

In general headgear aims at reproducing the dress color, if ever so lightly arranged, with some good contrasting or harmonizing tint, and the fashion of making rims and crowns of different materials is universal.

Gauze and ribbon will be arranged to fold around the neck after the fashion of the long veil, a fashion rather meaningless I think. The "Jane Harding" veil is all out. No veil must have a string now. One of similar shape, however, with deep border covering the chin to the nose, is substituted.

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