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## TOOTON'S,

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## Side Talks by Ruth Cameron

ARE YOUNG PEOPLE REALLY DIFFERENT?

Are the girls of to-day really less decent in their dress and less moral in their behaviour than the girls of a generation or two ago? Are we really looking on at a degeneration of the young through modern fashions, modern lack of restraint, modern styles of dress.

I often ask myself these questions when I see the latest in dances, or watch some girl go by with skirts up to her knees, or read some lurid accusations against present day morals.

And in spite of all these things, I find it very hard to answer in the affirmative.

As Old's Dress Itself.

And that which holds me back is the knowledge that every generation has always thought the succeeding generation radical and unrestrained; that fulminations against the growing immodesty of woman's dress are about as old as dress itself; that every change in customs, and manners has been hailed by the older generation as sure to turn the world upside down and bring us all to destruction.

Byron thought the old fashioned waltz, now the synonym for decency and restraint, a fearfully indecent and immoral dance and prophesied the decay of morals as a result of it.

"When she was a girl 40 summers ago, Aunt Tabitha, she tells me she never did so." That is the chorus of a song old when I was a small child, and it shows that even in the days that now seem to us the pink of infinite propriety, there were Aunt Tabithas to deplore the terrible tendencies of the young.

Bathubs Thought Immoral.

When bathubs with running water first came into use there was much reviling against them and frequent bathing was branded as dangerous to health, effeminate, and even, I believe, immorally luxurious. This last fact may not strike you as strictly relevant to the issue, but isn't it?

It shows how a new custom which has now been incorporated into our daily lives was received at first.

I am not enough in the know to tell whether young people to-day really are more careless in their

morals than young people of a generation or two generations ago. When everyone wears short skirts it seems to me that we will all adjust to the fact and think no more of them than we do of the girl in the bathing suit, which comes only to her knees. The first to adopt a new style and carry it to extremes will always be conspicuous but once the custom is adopted and people have stopped raving about it, doesn't its commonness cancel its effect?

Modesty of Dress is Always Relative.

Modesty of dress is always relative and dependent on custom. You hardly need to be reminded that in some countries women cover their faces and expose other parts of their anatomy. Should these women take to uncovering their faces there would doubtless be what-is-the-world-coming-to editorial in the papers of their country.

And to bring the thing still nearer home, one of the women's magazines is showing pictures of our great grandmothers in gowns which would certainly be considered immodestly décolleté to-day.

Mind you, I do not say that there is not a growth of recklessness and even of immorality among the younger generation to-day, because I don't know. I simply say that the dances and dress alone do not convince me. If my readers, especially mothers of young girls, know more about this subject I wish they would write me some of their experiences and convictions. No names of course will be used in passing these experiences along.

### Historic Cricket Balls.

If one of the unwritten laws of country cricket that the man who touches the ball last in a match can claim it as a souvenir, and there must be many balls treasured throughout the country which have interesting histories.

Abel had the good fortune to secure the ball used in the England v. Australia match at the Oval in August, 1886. He brought the game to an end by catching the last man, and as he walked to the pavilion with the ball in his hand he received many tempting offers for the souvenir.

The Grace family, too, possess a ball, mounted on an ebony stand, with which "E.M." took every wicket in the second innings of a match between the Gentlemen of Kent and the M.C.C. at Canterbury in 1862. "E.M." on that occasion, in addition to his bowling feat, went in first and scored 182 not out.

## Nelson's Old Flagship.

NAVAL MEN WORRIED OVER FUTURE OF H.M.S. VICTORY.

LONDON.—The future of Nelson's famous flagship, the Victory, according to a Naval correspondent of the Liverpool Post, is still causing anxiety among naval men.

"It is to be hoped," he writes, "that the matter will be dealt with as its importance deserves. The Marquis of Milford Haven recently stated that the Victory was likely to sink at her moorings and he suggested a fund to repair her and preserve her as a public memorial.

"This was rather alarming news, but enquiry on the spot showed that in the opinion of those on board the vessel, she is not much worse in condition than she was ten years ago, that they are not afraid of her foundering, and that she may be expected to last a good many years yet.

"Of course, the condition of the Victory does not show above the water line. When I visited her recently, most of the interior woodwork seemed sound enough, and it was not necessary to use the great pump (made out of an elm tree) in order to get rid of any water. Nevertheless there is no doubt that the ship, well kept as she is, is full of dry rot, and is gradually decaying. She was commenced in 1759, and had actually been afloat for forty years, (and active war years at that) when she took part in the battle of Trafalgar. A contrast to the battleship of to-day, which are obsolete in ten years, and are often scrapped in about twenty."

It is said that of the outside hull of the Victory very little of the original remains. Most of her copper sheathing was long ago made into souvenirs. The British and Foreign Seamen's Society used up a lot of it in that way for raising funds in 1905, to celebrate the centenary of Trafalgar. There are legends that bricks and mortar have been used to fill up gaps under water, and it is well-known that her masts—the upper parts of which, of wood, were renewed last year—are of iron.

Suffice to say that it has been found necessary to ease the strain of constant service as port guardship, and that on the rare occasion when the vessel has been docked the state of affairs disclosed has been a cause of a little anxiety. Only twice in what we might call modern times has the Victory had a thorough overhaul, and again in 1903, after being damaged in collision with the battleship Neptune, which broke adrift. Last year repairs were only to the upper works.

It is now suggested by the Society of Nautical Research that a casing of cement or steel should be placed around the Victory's hull. It is estimated that steel would cost about \$250,000. The Admiralty is said to have no funds available for such



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work. It will be a pity if the Victory is allowed to go to decay, so that this priceless naval relic is lost to the nation. This cannot be allowed.

Some years ago it was suggested that, as the ancient three-decker was getting too old to face the storms at her moorings in Portsmouth Harbor, she should be transferred to a 'shore billet.' This, it was advocated could be made by cutting a sort of dock with a short canal leading to the sea, towing the Victory in and then filling in the excavations, and thus securely 'beaching' the old hull. But the idea, while quite feasible and no doubt effective did not commend itself to the famous ship into something like a 'stone frigate,' and he project died a natural death.

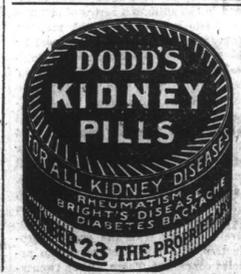
An alternative plan would be to move the Victory to a more sheltered position. No doubt a quiet nook could be found for her somewhere in Portsmouth Dockyard, where she could lie safely alongside and yet be accessible to the thousands of pilgrimages to see the spot where Nelson made the supreme sacrifice. The Victory's visitor's book is a unique volume of cosmopolitan names and addresses. In some years there have been more than 40,000 visitors to make the tour of the ship, and inspect the remarkable collection of Nelson relics on board. Something will have to be done to make sure that this great and historic naval possession remains safe and accessible.

### Origin of Word Camera.

"When the camera was invented, it was thought desirable or necessary to give it a scientific name and Latin was chosen. You know, of course, that they made up the word 'photograph' out of two Greek words, 'photos' light, and 'grapho' which

means to write or 'I write.' So 'photography' is 'light writing.' The instrument on which this light writing was done was named 'camera obscura' or 'dark chamber.' 'Camera' came into the Latin from the Greek. In the latter language it was 'kamara' and meant a vaulted chamber or a chamber with an arched roof. The Latins used 'camera' for chamber, meaning a room or hall, and that was the parent word of 'chamber' which came into English through the French. The photographers added 'obscura' to 'camera' making the instrument stand for 'dark room' because light was excluded from the box except when they admitted rays of light through the shutter and lens to fall upon the silvered, or sensitized side of the plate, which we now make of glass or a gelatinous compound called 'film.'"

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LEFT AND JEFF

SOME CLASS TO JOE'S NEW BILLIARD PARLOR.

By Bud



anticipation

William Wilberforce, anthropist, was born and will be ever grateful for his life during the abolition of the slave trade. He was educated at a York newspaper, and his manhood—his fortune, whereupon he wrote his life to the Parliament, pressed the cause of the slave trade, and brought forward the House of Commons. He was not until 1807 that the Bill passed the House. Sir Samuel Romilly, for the bill, he was passing the feeling of his greatness, with the individual who had upon his pillow that the slave trade, the slaves were as they were but masters as appropriate. In 1833, granted to slave of Wilberforce, long enough to see his work for his life in London, an honored with a baronet in Westminster time before his God that I have a day in which he give twenty million the abolition of slavery. Deeply pious, he had a system of Protestantism and an "Apology Sabbath." He had whom Samuel Johnson, of Oxford, anti-master, became very had sons in the

Mesopotam

Britain has been Mesopotamia, forty or a year to keep Mesopotamia, but those of an Arab Government, which, if all goes well, and prosperity to the King of the which would not be of a restored, the sovereign. The circumstances of the establishment of the Kingdom will naturally to Great Britain, Mohammedans in favorably disposed, in the account of Arab ambition.

Here's An

Clare Sheridan, sculptor, who was the busts of Lenin and leaders, is an of many good stories upon her favouritism the driver of a motorist in trouble of anywhere, and not a night. While he was with nuts and bolts the distance raised the motorist, surely! Help was at hand! "It was right, so far as another motorist. I was he was driving a boy, costing not a thousand guineas me, sir!" said the spirit Ford, as the audience to his sign. "So you know any?"

gentleman who had a "superstitious" couple of thous

doctrine the South Won

masked men was a white, archbishop, Episcopate, the work of the South Florida, negro his evening service, and then applied feathers to his body, and in a sack, and to a spot near the city and Saint L. Archdeacon, subject, declared a man to police headed who raised his "Lol" teaching social equality, and that as this was a man who presented it to death."