

WOMAN GOSSIP.

Personnal.

She was but a little girl
When I first began to woo,
The completest little girl
Ever dotting poet know.

Still she seemed a little girl
When to maidenhood she grew,
And overmore a little girl
I overmore must woo.

Though her hair may turn to silver,
And her red cheeks lose their hue,
She yet will be the little girl
My love-charmed fancy drow.

And though death's decay should pierce
Her sweet body through and through,
She will remain a little girl
To my enraptured view.

Fashion Notes.

Shell pink is a fashionable color. The husband of the lady who wears the pink usually loses the shell.

It is the fashion to cover the shoulders, back and bosom, with hoods, fichus, and pelorines of various styles and dimensions.

Cashmere designs are more in vogue than any others in the new brocades and damascos, though both large and small flower patterns appear in them.

Large gilded hooks and eyes fasten bonnet strings under the chin, and are used largely also on cloaks and wraps of all kinds that require to be fastened.

Some of the handsomest skirts of the season are made of plush, entirely plain, save that a balayouse plaiting of doubled satin appears below the edge.

Pointed waists are the leading styles for full dress, while round waists, plaited waists, and blouse designs continue to be employed for plain house dresses.

The new broad-edged satins and velvets differ from those of last season's manufacture in presenting large detached figures rather than the small matelasse effects.

The morning-gown is generally made long. It is mostly composed of a deep jacket, loose in front, semi-fitting behind, called a matinee, and can be worn with any skirt.

Plush is the favorite material for open wraps. It is imported in three colors—pink and blue in medium shades, and white. Satin is also used for this purpose, with plush as trimming.

Large sleeves are the universal feature of new wraps. Dolmans are called visites, and for the fall months are of light goods, lined with satins of some rich color and trimmed elaborately.

The new shoe-buckles are beautifully chased and encrusted. One of the favorite designs is a star, and another is the pretty hook and eye, now so fashionable for dresses, in cut steel.

Fancy feathers which have been so much worn will be superseded this fall by ostrich tips and feathers on the most elegant hats and bonnets. Plush will be as much used as velvet.

Buckles are in fashion again, and are used in many forms. Large ones of cut jet are placed midway of the ends of a Turkish sash, and they are seen on hats, cloaks, and dress waists.

Among the novelties this season for evening dresses are satin-faced grenadines with raised designs. They come in every variety of design and tint. They are usually made up over satin or silk.

Very pretty indoor jackets are made in the casaquin style, moulding the waist, and coming down low over the hips. The front is trimmed from the neck down to the waist line with a lace quilting.

A new felt skirt for the winter is as soft as ladies' cloth, yet thick and warm. It is seamless, and measures two yards around. The material is Austrian wool, manufactured in England, and it is called the Princess Alice.

A dress that will be popular with young ladies this season is a combination of cloths of camel's hair with plain surah, such as plum-colored cloth with surah that has a plum ground and many gay bars of pale blue, red, and orange.

Wide collars are used universally upon girls' dresses this season, and sashes are seen everywhere. The latter are often embroidered in a loose and sketchy manner across the ends, and ribbons are also decorated with a little odd stitching.

The most costly bonnet made this autumn was fashioned for a wealthy lady in New York recently. It was a model of quiet taste, being of dark rich maroon plush, with diamonds set in the head of pins, which were fastened tastefully over it. The jewels made the bonnet cost \$8,000.

The ends of all tabs and trimmings that depend from the waist or skirt are gathered and finished with a tassel or other ornament. The ends of ribbons and bonnet-strings are either gathered at the end or shirred a few inches above and the ends fringed, producing the same effect.

Combination undergarments of different kinds are destined to revolutionize the old and painstaking modes of making. The prevalence of close-fitting curvass waists requires the nicest adjustment of all that is worn beneath them, and hence these garments are more than ever in demand.

Waifs.

Said he: "Let us be one." And she was won.

Mulum in parvo. The little finger carries the biggest ring.

"Oh, dear! I wish I was dead!" exclaimed a neglected maiden. She had heard these matches are made in heaven.

HINT FOR MAMMAS.—An old lady who has several unmarried daughters feeds them on fish diet, because it is rich in phosphorus, and phosphorus is the essential thing in making matches.

"If I have ever used any unkind words, Hannah, said Mr. Smiley to Mrs. Smiley, reflectively, "I take them all back. "Yes, I suppose you want to use them over again, was the not very soothing reply.

THE girls who were to be converted recently in St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Concord, were officially informed beforehand by the Bishop that he would not lay his hands on any head that bore banged or frizzed hair.

At a printers' festival, lately, the following toast was offered: "Woman! Second only to the press in the dissemination of news." The ladies are yet undecided whether to regard this as a compliment or otherwise.

PHONETIC.—Maiden aunt to tall young nephew. "As I stood by you in church, Percy, I could not help being struck by your size." Percy: "Very sorry, aunt, but there was such an awfully pretty girl the other side of the aisle, I couldn't help sighing."

"What! that coffee all gone?" "Yes, mam. There isn't a blessed drop left in box." "What! four pounds of coffee used up in our small family in one week?" "Small family? Musha, thin, mam, there's two of yez an' the maid, and there's me an' me four admirers, who has aish a night to hisself, and how ye can make a small family out of tin o' us is beyant me intirely. I don't know what ye'll do when I come to fill in th' other two nights o' the week wid young men who wants a sup o' hot coffee for to keep the chills away!"

A NUMBER of French ladies recently had an amicable contest as to who could arrange the most distinguished toilette from the cheapest and commonest material. The prize was awarded, at a breakfast in the country, to a lady whose dress was of *toile d'emballage*, or packing cloth, lined with red, and trimmed with lace, and with wild flowers embroidered on a gold ground, parasol and shoes to match, and twelve button gloves. The embroidery cost eight hundred francs, the lace fifteen hundred, the handle of the parasol six hundred, but the material of the dress cost only seventy-five francs. Nothing is said of the dressmaker's bill.

They were sitting together in the horse car. "I do hate people who are forever talking about their neighbors," said the woman with the peaked hat. "So do I," concurred her companion in the cashmere shawl. "There's Miss Green," continued Peaked Hat, "continually carryin' things back and forth. Think she'd better look to home. Goodness knows she and her husband live a reg'lar cat-and-dog life." "Yes, indeed," said Cashmere; "and her daughter Sarah isn't half cared for. I was tellin' Miss Jones only yesterday that the way Miss Green neglected that girl was a cryin' shame. Oh! by the way, did you hear that story about Tilda Smith?" "No! what is it?" exclaimed Peaked Hat, turning half round in her seat in her eagerness, her eyes sparkling in anticipation of the coming treat. But gentle reader, never mind what it was

Neither you or I care anything about it. We live tattle just as bad as Peaked Hat and Cashmere.

A North Carolina Marriage.

Soon after the close of the last war Captain X was appointed a justice of the peace in a country place not far from Raleigh, North Carolina.

His father had been a planter in a rather small way, and his son the captain had acquired considerable experience in the business of managing real estate, drawing up deeds, etc., during the father's lifetime, and then in settling the estate after his decease. Further than this he had no legal knowledge, and, indeed, his entire stock of "book-learning" was small and poorly selected, but any lack in general information was fully made up, for his uses, by self-assertion. Late one afternoon, as he was riding home from Raleigh, he met a young woman and two men, who hailed him and inquired if he was Captain X. The young woman and one of the men wished to be married at once. The other had come as a witness. They had procured the necessary license, but an irate father was on their path, and swore that they should never be married. It was considered on all accounts safest to have the ceremony performed without delay, and try pacification afterward.

Now the captain had never witnessed a marriage, and naturally had no very clear idea of what was usual in such cases. He remembered having seen a book about the house years before with a form for marriage in it, but what the book was and where it was he could not remember.

"Why," said he, when he told the story afterward, "I knew the 'Pious Creed and Commandments,' and at first I thought I'd use 'em to begin on, but then I reckoned, on the whole, they was too durned solemn."

He asked the couple to come to his house, secretly hoping that he could find that book; but they declined, for the reason that the matter admitted of no delay.

A less assured man would have been sorely perplexed, but not he. He lost no time in removing his hat, and remarked, "Hats off in the presence of the court." All being uncovered, he said, "I'll swear you in fast off. Hold up yer right hands."

"Mo too?" asked the friend of the groom.

"Of course," said the captain, "all witness must be sworn. You and each of you solemnly swear that the evidence you shall give in this case shall be the truth, th' ole truth, an' nothin' but the truth, s'elf you God. You, John Marvin, do solemnly swear that to the best of your knowledge an' belief you take this yer woman ter have an' ter hold for yerself, yer heirs, exekutors, administrators, and assigns, for your an' their use an' behoof forever?"

"I do," answered the groom.

"You, Alice Ewer, take this yer man for yer husband, ter hev an' ter hold forever; and you do further swear that you are lawfully seized in fee-simple, are free from all incumbrance, and hev good right to sell, bargain, and convey an' the said grantees yerself, yer heirs, administrators, and assigns?"

"I do," said the bride, rather doubtfully.

"Well, John," said the captain, "that'll be about a dollar 'n' fifty cents."

"Are we married?" asked the other.

"Not by a durned sight ye aint," quoth the captain, with emphasis; "but *the fee comes in here.*" After some fumbling it was produced and handed to the "Court," who examined it to make sure that it was all right, and then pocketed it, and continued: "Know all men by these presents, that I, Captain X, of Raleigh, North Carolina, being in good health and of sound and disposing mind, in consideration of a dollar 'n' fifty cents to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do and by these presents have declared you man and wife during good behavior, and until otherwise ordered by the court."

The men put on their hats again, the young couple, after shaking their benefactor's hand, went on to meet their destiny and the irate father, while the captain rode home richer in experience.

THE present potentate of Turkey, Abdul Hamid, is described by the Constantinople correspondent of the London Times as a nervous, timid man, who is afraid of his own shadow, and who does not venture to ride or drive beyond the limits of his well-guarded private pleasure-grounds. Yet he defies Europe. Though physically a coward, he has something of that peculiar courage which produced the *coup d'etat* of 1851, and when his cowardice and obstinacy are at issue, the latter generally carries off the victory.

The Czar's Bride.

The Emperor Alexander had been in love with the princess Dolgorouki for more than twelve years. He first met her at the residence of her sister-in-law, the princess Dolgorouki-Vulcano, a most honorable Neapolitan. Struck with the grace of the princess Catharine, a blonde of charming simplicity and great beauty, the emperor declared his love, and the affair soon became the talk of St. Petersburg. He established her in apartments on the English quay, and here he has visited almost daily for the past ten years to seek solace in her society from the cares and worries of state affairs. The princess Dolgorouki has given birth to several children, all of them being authorized by imperial ukase to bear the titles of Count and Countess de Gourine, the name of the extinct branch of the Romanoffs. The princess followed the emperor to the banks of the Danube under the name of Mme. Rilejor during the late war with Turkey. Of course the empress knew all about it, but her malady and the coldness of her nature caused her to shut her eyes to the real state of the case. But when the czar desired to legitimize the princess' children, the empress, the czarewitch, and the grand duke declined to accede. The Czarina determined to leave Russia and find at Cannes a refuge from the insult offered her. The czarewitch avoided the winter palace as much as possible. The influence of the Princess Dolgorouki grew daily stronger in the czar's household. The emperor yielded so completely to its fascinations, that he even showed anxiety to obtain a divorce from the empress and to marry the princess. Now that the marriage is accomplished, it is almost certainly of the kind known as "morganatic," in which the bride stipulates that she and her children will neither assume the rank nor inherit the possessions of the husband. These alliances are not over frequent, but the *Europe Diplomatique* occasionally furnishes us with a list of such marriages entered into by the princes of the royal house of Europe. Besides Victor Emmanuel, Leopold I., of Belgium, and Frederick VII., of Denmark, the latest list embraces some fifteen princess' names, a large majority of whom belong to the reigning house of Germany and Austria.

The Grotto Under Mount Rossi, Sicily.

The eruption of Mount Etna in 1669, says *La Nature*, was the most formidable of historic times. The side of the mountain opened for a length of about four miles, and there issued from it a torrent of lava four miles broad, which, after destroying several villages, and half of the city of Catane, flowed into the sea and formed a promontory two miles long by half a mile wide and sixty feet high. At the same time the scoria and sand thrown out by the craters formed a mountain with a double crest, that was at first called Monti della Rovina, and later Monti Rossi, on account of the reddish color that the scoria from the two crests assumed through the oxidation of the iron contained in it. The higher of the two crests is about 800 feet above Etna, and about 3,000 feet above the sea. In the interior of the cone of Mount Rossi there are two immense extinct craters, exhibiting the characteristic funnel-shape, and the sides of which are formed of scoria in a decomposing state. Up to 1823 no one had had the curiosity to descend to the bottom of these craters; but at this period the intelligent observer, Mario Gemellaro, undertook their exploration. He saw with some surprise a horizontal aperture at the bottom of one of the cavities, and entering it with a torch, he found, after traversing a suite of corridors resembling the galleries of a mine, a large well, into which he caused himself to be lowered by means of ropes. At some feet from the bottom of this well he found a vast rectangular room, at the further end of which there was a passage which grew smaller and smaller, and at last became impassable. This remarkable grotto, which was named Grotto della Palomba, is situated exactly in the centre of Monti Rossi. It has now been open to travellers, the descent being facilitated by a stairway, and the cavern being illuminated by magnesium light instead of the former resinous torches.

LEWIS IRWIN displeased his parents, at Gallipolis, Ohio, and while his mother pounded him with a club, his father shot him with a pistol.

BREAD made from whole wheat soaked before been coarsely ground is used in the French army. Sea water used in the kneading is said to add flavour.