The Mother.

By Emma Lazarus.

[From Scribner's Monthly.]

Down the goldenest of streams,
Tide of dreams,
The fair cradled man-child drifts;
Sways with cadenced motion slow,
To and fro,
As the mother foot poised lightly, falls and lifts;

He, the fretting—he the light
Of her sight—
He, the breathing pledge of love,
Neath the holy passion lies
Of her eyes—
Smiles to feel the warm, life-giving ray above.

She believes that in his vision,
Skies elysian
O'er an angel-people shine,
Back to gardens of delight,
Taking flight,
His auroral spirit basks in dreams divine.

But the smile through anxious tears;
Unborn years
Pressing forward, she perceives,
Shadowy muffled shapes they come
Deaf and dumb,
Bringing what? dry chaff and tares, or full-eared shelves?

What for him shall she invoke?
Shall the oak
Bind the man's triumphant brow?
Shall his daring foot alight
On the heigh
Shall he dwell amidst the humble and the low?

Through what tears and sweat and pain,
Must he gain
Fruitage from the tree of life?
Shall it yield him bitter flavor?
Shall its savor
Be as manna midst the turmoil and the strife:

In his cradle slept and smiled
Thus the child
Who as Prince of Peace was hailed;
Thus anigh the mother breast,
Lulled to rest,
Child-Napoleon down the filled river sailed.

Crowned or crucified—the same
Glows the flame
Of her deathless love divine,
Still the blessed mother stands
In all lands,
As she watched beside thy cradle and by mine.

Whatso gifts the years bestow,
Still men know,
While she breathes, lives one who sees
(Stand they pure or sin defiled)
But the child
Whom she crooned to sleep and rocked upon her knees.

WOMAN GOSSIP.

How the Polygamous Turkish Husband Regulates His Harem.

Marriage and Divorce in the Sultan's (Late) Dominions—Hadji Abdallah's Treatment.

A Short Discourse on "The Female, the Woman, and the Lady" What Pertains to Ladyhood.

A Romance of Half a Century Ago—A Wife Personated by Her Sister.

FEMININE NOTES AND TIDBITS.

WOMEN IN TURKEY.

Osman Bey, *alias* Maj. Vladimir Andrejevich, appears to be a Russian exile who has become a Turk. So much of a Turk is he that in his book, which has just been published in Paris, "Les Femmes en Turquie," he speaks of his mother's harem, and tells how she got rid of a demonical eunuch whose presence was inconvenient to her. Osman Bey was on the sultan's staff. Hespent much time in the imperial palace, and appears to have much practical and personal knowledge of the subject or subjects of his book. He had as one of his friends, moreover, a sort of Turkish Legree—Hadji Abdallah, of Morocco—a venerable ruffian, near a century old, whose latter days seemed to have been spent in compelling recalcitrant ladies in the various harems of Stamboul to be better behaved. Slight cases of this kind he treated on the spot with stick and whip; more obstinate offenders he took in hand at his own house by starvation, and dungeons and torture; and it was generally remarked that when these ladies returned they were singularly obedient. One visit to the old Hadji's house was enough, for as one of them confessed, she was afraid lest she should have been burned alive, a little accident which often happened in Hadji's dealings with obstinate ladies. That was what he did towards the end of his days. His earlier life had been spent in carrying off slaves in every possible way, begging, borrowing, and stealing them, and then selling them in the slave bazaar, in which business he had acquired an ample fortune. Osman Bey's own experience, however, relate to affairs as they now are in Turkey. He dwells with great clearness upon the two plagues of the Ottoman system—slavery and polygamy. The lot of slaves in Turkey is comparatively easy—but still they are slaves; the wives and concubines in a Turkish harem have in various ways an easy life of it—but still they are regarded as inferior beings, chattles, and playthings. Osman Bey thus describes how a young well-to-do Turk gets his first wife.

When Izzed Bey informs his mother of his desire to marry, he need trouble himself no further in the matter till she comes back and tells that she found in Zarah a moon-faced, plump young lady, the object of his affections. It is part of the young Turkish nature to fall violently in love on the spot with this imaginary object, whom Ized Bey has never seen and never will really see till the fatal moment when, in the bridal chamber, he lifts the rose-hued veil and beholds in the object of his affections either a houri a ghoul, or, it may be, a nonedescript something between the two. But so it is; Izzed Bey is at once enamoured, worships the tip of his mistress' little finger when poked out of a lattic, or her eyes as she whirls by him in a carriage. So the courtship proceeds till all is settled between the mothers and a handsome sum paid down by the bridegroom. At last the happy day arrives, and all the world hastens to the wedding to behold the bride standing upright, veiled from head to foot, to admire the presents and to make remarks not always complimentary on the bridegroom, who has to run the gauntlet of all the sharp tongues of the beholders. Thus the ay wears on, until the happy pair are left alone and Izzed Bey lifts Sarah's veil and either discovers that he is the happy possessors of charms which, reckoned in the Turkish fashion, would be worth, if the bride were a slave, some £3,000 or £4,000 or the unhappy owner of one of those scraggy very plain persons who, at the same valuation, would be dear at 50 shillings. In the first place it is quite possible that Izzed and Zarah may be long and happy; in the last, it is not likely to last many moons in a country where mere physical beauty goes for so much, and where the women are singularly uneducated.

Divorce is very easy—on the part of the husband. He has only to say "get away with thee; I banish the from my house," and his wife must go. She cannot dismiss her husband in this manner, nor in any way; but as compensation she has the whole control of her own property. Still divorce is not common, and if Izzed Bey becomes dissatisfied with Zarah, instead of divorcing he either marries again or buys a slave. He may have four wives, and as many slaves as he can support. Zarah will always be his "first" wife; but he may take to himself another called "the second," a third called the middle one," and a fourth who rejoices in the title of "the little one," and who, though the last, is usually not the least in the dear love of her lord. And here arises one of the great economical objections to polygamy—its expenses. Some people know how costly one wife can be; but in Turkey under one and the same roof, there may be four, all with separate rooms, slavas, and establishments for them and their children; all clamoring for fine clothes, and sweetmeats, and trinkets, and all expecting to have a carriage in which to take the air, and eunuchs on gaily-comparisoned horses to ride after them. Quite apart from the intrigues of these ladies against one another, it is clear that polygamy is a question of money, and at once implies one law of marriage for the rich, and another for the poor. The ordinary working-Turk rubs on one wife and a slave or two—a happier man than Izzed Bey, who discontented with Zarah, marks each step of his rise in life by taking to him a new wife, until before he is buried himself he may, like Osman Bey's old patron, Hafiz Pasha, have married and buried more wives than he could reckon on his fingers.

And after the ligitimate wives come the slaves; slaves both female and male. As to the first, the Turk hates trouble. But legitimate marriage with an equal such as we have described in the case of Izzed Bey, and Zarah take time and trouble. Why have all this worry when you can go to some private slave-dealer, for, though there is no slave bazaar, slaves are bought and sold every day at Constantinople. Why not go to some modern Hadji Abdallah and choose for yourself, not at all in the pig-in-the-poke principle, but by natural selection face to face? That is how many of the Turkish harems are filled with white female slaves, all more or less valuable in the wife market. It is a horrid practice, and the Turks ought to blush at it; only we remember that young ladies though not slaves, are often bought or sold for wives in other countries. As for the male slaves, they are chiefly negroes, and so are the lower female slaves who do all the hard work in the household, for no Turk will work if he can help it, and so he must have slaves. In his own household Osman Bey gives us an amusing instance of the uselessness of a free Turkish woman who came in to help. This unfortunate creature was forced to give up the place, because whenever she had taken off her veil and was sitting down to work some man would pass through the room, when she had at once to huddle on her veil and turn her back to the intruder, lest he should behold her face. At last, in throwing on her veil while she held a lighted candle in her hand, she set herself on fire, and had to be put out by Osman Bey himself. The difficulties of free female labor under such conditions may be imagined. Our housemaids are bad enough, but what would they be if they had to jump up and veil themselves every other minute lest John or Thomas should behold their very ordinary faces? Slaves therefore, are necessary to the Turk, both in his martial, his social, and his domestic relations. They are an institution, and so long as the present Ottoman system continues slaves must form a part of the daily existence of the Turk.

Those Spring Bonnets.

Harper's Bazar.

The first importations of Spring bonnets are of French chip, soft English straws, and rough fancy brands with a piping of velvet between the rows of braid. The chip bonnets are of remarkably fine quality, being double sewed and more durable than those of former seasons; there are quite as many black bonnets as there are white ones; the rough straws are principally colored, brown, black and gray, but there are also many of the eru tints of last year.

The new bonnets are of comfortable shape, being modrrate in size, large in the head, and close fitting in front. They do not differ greatly from those now worn. The crown is very ample, square at the top, and very low behind, where it may end abruptly, or be finished by a straight curtain band, or one that is indented in the middle. The variety is seen in the brims, some of which are cottage shaped, and so close that all inside trimming is dispensed with.

Satin is the principal material for trimming. It is used in the piece, laid in loose irregular folds, handkerchief shape and pipings; but above everything else, in ribbons that are gros grained on the reverse side. Nos. 12 and 16 are the widths most used in ribbons for trimming and for strings.

Beads will be the special feature of the spring garniture. These are not merely the fine-cut beads now in use, but are round beads as large as a pea strung on a fine wire, and used to finish the edge of brims and to twine in loops and bows of satin.

There are ornaments of balls and reds in brooches and clasps made to correspond with the different kinds of beads. There are also many different kinds of fine cut beads in rainbow colors, in jet, in gold and clair de lune, set in passementerie that is made in meshes like netting and is used to tie flat on the brim of the bonnet.

The French flowers excel those of any previous season in variety and ingenuity, though they do not copy nature as closely as they have hitherto done.

A special novelty is the cresent shaped cluster for the top of the bonnet—a half moon of flowers of several colors—yellow buttercups with damask roses and pale blue forget-me-nots, fringed with moss or grasses. Other small boquets, of various colors, are placed low behind the ear on the left side of the bonnet. Thick clumps of unblown roses and of many green leaves cover the left side of the bonnet.

Rosettes of many loops of satin or of watered ribbon are on the new bonnets. These are not set or stiff looking cockades, but are irregular clusters of loops of ribbon an inch wide. A single large rosette is put directly on top of the brim, reaching to the crown, or there may be two smaller ones. The strings are carelessly twined around the crown, or else across the curtain band at the back. The inside of the brim and curtain is usually faced with satin.

Some bonnets have two large Alsacian bows, with drooping loops of two shades of satin ribbon set down on the crown as their principal trimming; others have for face trimming a thickly clustered Alsacian bow of cardinal red or pale blue satin placed inside the brim.

One marked thing about the new bonnet is the absence af all draperies of ribbons or flowers; instead of these streaming ornaments that soon get ragged looking, the bonnet is as compact-looking as it can be made.

Tha Fra Diavolo hat is one of the new shapes in chip for country wear. There are also Peg Woffington hats of graceful shapes, and pretty Japanese crowns slightly pointed, and without defined brims. The latter are trimmed with row after row of black lace laid in full knife-pleatings, on which are many bows of cardinal satin ribbon; the flowers are down the left side. The Derby hat with round crown and rolled brim, and the English walking hat, with square crown, are both shown in fine black chip for the coming season.

Chinese Maxims.

The finest roads do not go far.

It is the rich who want most things.

Raillery is the lightning of calumny.

Ceremony is the smoke of friendship.

Great souls have wills; others only feeble wishes.

Attention to small things is the economy of virtue.

All is lost when the people fear death less than poverty.

He who lets things be given to him is not good at taking.

Who is the greatest liar? He who speaks most of himself.

Men may bend to virtue, but virtue can not bend to men.

One may do without mankind, but one has need of a friend.

The court is like the sea—everything depends upon the wind.

One forgives everything to him who forgives himself nothing.

The pleasure of doing good is the only one that never wears out.

The tree overthrown by the wind had more branches than roots.

Receive your thoughts as guests and treat desires like children.

For him who does everything in its proper time one day is worth three.

One never needs one's wits so much as when one has to deal with a fool.

The less indulgence one has for one's self the more one may have for others.

He who wishes to secure the good of others has already secured his own.

A fool never admires himself so much as when he has committed some folly.

At court people sing that they may drink; in a village people drink that they may sing.

Towers are measured by their shadows, and great men by those who are envious of them.

The dog in the kennel barks at his fleas; but the dog that is hunting does not feel them.

When men are together they listen to one another, but women and girls look at each other.

He who finds pleasure in vice and pain in virtue is a novice both in the one and the other.

A Petersburg man, while hunting near Fort Steadman, in Prince George County, Va., recently, found in a plowed field a diamond-shaped silver shield, bearing the inscription—"Charles Gannon, Co. D, 6th Reg't N.J.V.V."

Complaints are made of inefficiency on the part of many of the teachers in the public schools of the Province of Quebec. But their salaries are small.

Prof. C. V. Riley, Chief of the United States Entomological Commission, writes to the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* that, in the opinion of the Commission, the people of the West need not fear this year any serious ravages from the grasshoppers. This opinion has been formed after personal examinations during the Autumn in much of the country, and from the reports of numerous correspondents.

An exchange tells us that the feminine mind resents a joke. We call attention to the truth of this statement. Never jock with a woman. Belt her over the head with a coal-scuttle, chuck blacking brushes at her, throw her out of the window; but don't wound the sensitive fibres of her soul by any humorous remarks. Woman is not paragraphic by nature.—[Puck.

Lord Napier of Magdala.

Everyday Life of the Veteran Commander.

Called from Gibraltar to the Chief Command.

The "Celebrity at Home," in the London *World* for Feb. 13, is Lord Napier of Magdala, who has just been promoted from the Governorship of Gibraltar to the Chief Command of any British Expeditionary Force to be sent to the East. After describing his home at the Convent, and the coming and going of ambassadors and other dignitaries and visitors all day long, the *World* goes on to say:—

"Lord Napier is always easy of access; he keeps up no straitlaced ceremony or pompous state, and all who come may have an audience if they please. The room he habitually occupies as his own private office looks out upon the Convent garden; it is of narrow dimensions, plainly furnished with the stereotyped official belongings, but is a bright sunny room with southern aspect, and through the open windows comes the scent of roses even now in full bloom. Here, at a wide official desk covered with books, plans, papers, the General is seated, rapidly disposing of his correspondence; but at our entrance he rises to greet us with simple, straightforward courtsey, speaking in quiet—almost confidential—tones, and with such an entire absence of stiffness or pretension that he makes us at once at home. A striking figure, rather above the middle height, erect and soldier-like, the full strong frame arrayed in uniform, his favorite dress being the blue patrol jacket for field service, covered with broad frogs and braid, red-striped overalls, boots and spurs. He wears uniform habitually while on the Rock and actually on duty, so to speak, within the limits of his command; only when he rides out into Spain does he appear in mufti, and it is that of the English gentleman about to appear in Rotten Row—tall hat, black coat, everything neat and *de rigeur*. A man clearly advanced in years is Lord Napier; a rugged face, somewhat seamed by lines of thought, and tanned by long exposure in tropical climes; hair and moustache snow white; his eyes, which from the constant glare and irritation of dust and sand look dull and heavy, are screwed up together as if in pain, and seem scarcely calculated at first sight to threaten and command. But there is no abatement in his physical vigour. The gallant spirit which made him the *beau ideal* of a leader of light cavalry, when with unflagging untiring energy he chased for days together, at the head of a handful of horse, the rebels Tantia Topes and Ferozeshah, during the closing scenes of the great Indian mutiny, is far from burnt out yet.

"This office in which we see him now is his resting-place perforce; but when business claims him not, his favorite home is the saddle still. He is always well mounted, and has an admirable seat upon a horse, neat, strong, and workmanlike; he rides boldly but carelessly, and with rather a loose rein. Now, as of old, he is continually on horseback for hours and hours together. Gibraltar and its immediate neighborhood is essentially a land of bridle-paths; turnpike-roads, except upon the Rock itself, are rare and even there he who would explore all parts must forego the use of wheels. This suits its present Governor exactly. There is no more constant attendant at the meets of the Calpe hounds, no one keener among those enthusiastic sportsmen who are a source of endless astonishment to their Spanish friends. He takes his gallops regularly—often before breakfast—on the beach of Gibraltar Bay; he may be seen again and again riding along the Queen's or Upper road, or threading the intricacies of the interminable fortifications. In coping with any prolonged mental exertion Lord Napier is not perhaps quite the man he was. He is apt to show signs of fatigue, especially after dinner. Yet a nap in the evening may be forgiven a man who has spent an arduous and eventful day; and Lord Napier's days are unusually long, beginning early and ending late. He clings still to the habits acquired in the East, where he spent so large a portion of his life. Like a true Indian, he is up with the lark; soon after daybreak he issues forth from the convent, mounted on his favorite Arab, and by breakfast-time has accomplished a large amount of inspectorial work, closely and minutely performed. A painstaking and scrupulous attention to detail is perhaps the strongest point in his professional character. Nothing is too minute for his personal care and attention. He looks closely, for instance, into all matters concerning the personal comfort of the soldier. By reducing sentries, he has increased the number of 'nights in bed;' and he has improved and added largely to cook-houses and canteens. His is an organising mind; he is gifted with great and undoubted administrative capacity, that he is also thoroughly imbued with a progressive spirit. No one knows better than he that the safety of the stronghold he commands might easily be imperilled by any neglect of the great truth that modern science is rapidly and continually changing the conditions of warfare. Lord Napier goes with the times. While inviting readily the co-operation and advice of subordinates, of the scientific officers around him, and of his own intelligent staff, he himself originates, controls, improves. In all matters connected with armament—a constantly recurring question when, as now, guns grow daily more and more monstrous in size; with the construction and position of batteries when, as now, increasing ranges alter relative values: in the great questions of storage and supply—Lord Napier has proved himself eminently well suited for the post he at present holds. There is a prevalent superstition upon the Rock that certain dread secrets—the existence of concealed lines of unexplored galleries, invisible batteries masked like snakes in the grass—which are lodged in the breast of the Governor alone, would add materially to the defensive strength of Gibraltar were it ever again beseiged. More valuable than such apoeryphal secrets is the knowledge, patent to all, of the able and military genius of Lord Napier himself. He is one of the best governors Gibraltar has seen for many a day. Although debarred from the widest experience as an engineer officer, having taken part in no greater siege operations than the reduction of hill-forts, or as assistant engineer at the siege of Mooltan, he was the life and soul, scientifically speaking, of the defence of Lucknow, and his comprehensive views and fertility of resource were fully exhibited by his triumph over the obstacles and difficulties of that march to Magdala which won him the title he bears. These qualities would probably stand him in good stead should Gibraltar be attacked within his time.

"Lord Napier shines no less in his private and social relations than in his professional capacity. He is the most kindly of men. In no respect does this show itself more strongly than in his friendly encouragement of the rising young officers of the day. He loves their society, seeks them out, brings them forward, makes them companions of his long rides, converses freely with them, pouring forth the while the treasures of his knowledge and experience, counselling, explaining, encouraging by turns. There are many whose feet are now scarcely placed upon the ladder of fame who still remember the patronage and support of the distinguished veteran. To members of his own corps, to engineers especially, he has been ready always to hold out a helping hand; he welcomes gladly the news of fame won by his brother-officers; he presents a sword as a prize for the Woolwich cadets, and takes always the liveliest interest in corps success. But he is a soldier above all, anxious always to indoctrinate Engineers with the paramount importance of the military side of their training. 'Put more soldiering into it and fewer girders,' he said to a young sapper subaltern at Chatham, who showed him, with pardonable pride, a piece of his work in which the civil had been exalted at the expense of the military engineer. But there is no narrowness or class bigotry about Lord Napier; he extends the same good-natured sympathy to young officers of all arms, provided only that they are eager to improve themselves professionally. On this point, and on the necessity of educating all officers early and thoroughly well to their work, so that they may be the real instructors of the men they command, Lord Napier has very strong and decided views. The same generous spirit which has made him beloved by all the young men under his orders shows itself also in the liberal interpretation he has put upon the vice-regal duties of entertainment in his present position. Although by no means rich, he is the most hospitable man in the world. Never, perhaps, have the hospitalities offered by the Convent to society generally been on a larger scale during the present *regime*. Lord Napier is ably assisted by Lady Napier, a thoroughly sympathetic and *pre senante* hostess; and he is fortunate to number among the officers of his staff an aid-de-camp like Major Gilbard, whose name from long association has come to be considered a household world upon the Rock. Under the able stewardship and supervision of the latter, his lordship keeps open house; balls, dinners, concerts, children's theatricals, follow each other in rapid succession, all admirably done and regardless of expense.

"Whether, in the event of our taking part in any great European struggle, Lord Napier would be left in the place he fills so well, or be translated to a higher function, it is difficult just now to decide. Two years ago a general consensus of opinion pointed to him as unquestionably the man who would be selected in any great emergency. The Duke of Cambridge openly declared at a certain great banquet, given just then in Lord Napier's honor, that such would undoubtedly be the case; and the statement, when it went forth into the world, was very warmly indorsed and approved. With characteristic modesty, Lord Napier is said to have deprecated the notion himself, feeling that he had had his opportunities and had done his best with them; it was better now to let others have their chance. This idea is perhaps gaining ground as time slips by; and yet, with one or two notable exceptions, it is not easy to name a general who more inspires greater confidence or who has greater claims than Lord Napier, so long as his energies continue unimpaired. He has not had, it is true, much practical experience of strategical movements on a very extended scale. What English general has? But he has been a steady and persistent student of the theory of war; he has seen much hard fighting; he has many of the highest faculties of leadership; and it may fairly be assumed that if entrusted with the supreme command he would increase, not tanrish, the lustre of the national arms."

PERSONAL ADORNMENT.

Fashionable Raiment Not So Antagonistic to Health as Some People Assert.

The Civilized Woman Possessed of an Energy that Is Entirely Foreign to Barbarous Tribes.

"A Few Ounces of Loose Silk Cloth" No More Conducive to Vigor than "Elaborate Fastenings and Complicated Layers of Inconveniences."

What Apparel It at Present the Most Serviceable and Popular.

The Most Stylish Manner in Which to Make Dresses for All Occasions.

Parting Hints in Regard to the Odds and Ends of the Toilet.

Among a certain class of people the belief prevails that civilization is conducive to ill-health, and in support of this belief numerous facts, authentic and of considerable weight, are advanced. It is said that the women of savage tribes, of the toiling peasant classes of Europe, and of the harems of the East, possess a strength and vigor that are of the best quality, and only this because they wear a dress merely notable for its simplicity and scantiness. Mrs. Leonowens states, concerning Siamese women, viz., that they wear only a few ounces of loose silk cloth for covering, and that they are wholly ignorant of the long train of weaknesses of which we hear so much. Again, some one else says: "Looking over the world at large, it would appear that, just in proportion as a nation advances in general intelligence and Christian virtue, in just that proportion does the female half of its people delight in dressing so as to defy nature's laws. It is a curious anomaly, which I will not stop to explain. So long as women remain heathen, they may be servile, ignorant and frivolous, but they do appear to have some respect for their bodies. The free-flowing outlines of the costumes worn by Greek and Roman maids and matrons were not more beautiful to the eye of the artist, as he pictured them in the sacred processions that wind across their vases and bas-reliefs, than they were conducive to the full development of that body whose strength and beauty their people worshipped with such reverent homage. And could mothers begirt with corsets, laced and paniered after the fashion of our time, have given birth to the ideals of athletic young heroes who strove before their assembled countrymen for the crowns of honor at national games? All the women of the east, as well as those of Siam, drape themselves to-day with light folds of unsewed cloth, and know nothing of our elaborate fastenings and complicated layers of inconveniences."

Another party writes: "Cross the boundaries of any civilized and Christian land, and you behold a race of gasping, nervous, and despairing women, who, with their compressed ribs, torpid lungs, hobbling feet, and billious stomachs, evidently consider it their first duty to mortify the flesh, and to render themselves and all humanity belonging to them as frail and uncomfortable as possible."

No doubt there is considerable truth in these statements, but that they are wholly true is another thing. Barbarous races may be vigorous, but it does not follow that the women of a civilized and Christian land are gasping, nervous, or despairing. There are those who have ribs compressed, lungs torpid, feet hobbling, and stomachs billious, but they are the exception, not the rule. Debility in civilized lands arises no more from dress than from the difference in climate and vocation. In fact, instead of being vigorous and full of strength as represented, the women of the east are more remarkable for inability to labor than for anything else. The energy which characterizes the American woman in spite of her "elaborate fastenings and complicated layers of inconveniences," is something unknown to the lady of the Orient, and, as to the elastic step, brilliant eyes, and red cheeks which grace our streets, they are things entirely foreign to the harem. Moreover, the dress of the American woman is not such an object of dismay to those of other nations as asserted. There is no occasion, as some one has said, for the sturdy German and English matrons to shiver on beholding the gorgeous flimsiness in which the American traveller ventures to clothe herself; neither does the traveler, in her turn, "arch sharp eyebrows and endure twinges of 'aromatic pain,' whenever these broad-waisted, burly dames cross her vision, in stuffs of coarse woolen." The American traveler is precisely as well protected from wind and weather as any of the inhabitants of the countries in which she travels.

WHAT IS NOW WORN.

As every lady is aware, the assortment of fashionable apparel is at present not particularly remarkable for new characteristics. It is, however, imbued with many styles that have not previously been described, and that these styles may be brought before our readers, the following chapter is written.

AN EVENING DRESS.

The materials of which this is made are black velvet and cream-colored brocaded silk. The velvet skirt, cut en traine, is simply trimmed around the bottom with a five-inch velvet box-plaiting. The front drapery is placed on diagonally, and is of the brocade. Across the bottom are two rows of duchesse lace. A square sacque covers the entire back of the underskirt, and is fastened on to the front drapery with a row of medium-sized gold buttons. The basque waist is made of the velvet, and is ornamented with a fichu of duchesse lace. The elbow sleeves are finished with a deep fall of the same lace. Gold buttons similar to those on the skirt are used to fasten the waist.

A VISITING TOILET.

This elegant toilet consists of a rich gray silk dress and white fur cloak. The skirt is made in a full train. The back breadths are entirely plain with the exception of three narrow flutings of the same material around the bottom. The front breadths are almost covered with these flutings. One row extends up each side from the hem to the waist, and giving it the appearance of a square apron front. The basque waist and sleeves are only finished with heavy cordings. The fur cloak is made half-fitting. The back, falling about a yard below the waist, is cut square and is trimmed to the depth of half a yard with a dark brown fur. The fronts extend fully one yard and a half below the wrist and are cut in the form of narrow points. They are trimmed with a seven-inch band of the brown fur. The open sleeves are trimmed with a similar band. In each elbow is placed a handsome knot with ends of broad white gros grain ribbon. The accompanying bonnet is of black velvet with a garniture of full-blown white roses and white gros-grain ribbon.

WALKING SUIT.

This is made from rich black gros-grain and matelasse silk. The skirt of the silk is trimmed with a nine-inch flounce, headed with a seven-inch band of fine knife-plaiting. The overdress of the matelasse is made long and straight. Being opened partly up the back, the appearance of two square sections is the result. The edges are all finished with a narrow band of glossy black feathers. This band extends up the middle of the front. A broad band of chenille net-work is placed next to it, and continuing around the lower edge extends up the centre of the back to the waist. At the opening at the back is placed a handsome passementerie ornament finished with long rich tassels of chenille and silk. The long, tight-fitting paletot, also of matelasse, is trimmed in a manner to correspond with the overdress. It is made with long slender points at the sides, and has the angel sleeves. The collar stands high, and is filled in with a ruching of rich white lace. A cascade of the same lace falls from the throat almost to the waist. The bonnet designed to be worn with this costume is decidedly stylish. It is made from mauve velvet, falls down upon the forehead in a narrow point, is garnished with a spray of cardinal flowers and mauve plume, and is tied under the chignon with short strings of gros-grain ribbon in the mauve shade.

MORNING WRAPPER.

Rich cardinal-colored cashmere is the fabric of which this wrapper is made. It fits close to the figure until it reaches half a yard below the waist. At this point a broad triple box plait is inserted at the back, which sweeps off in a long graceful train. The front is not easy to name a general who more inspires greater confidence or who has greater claims than Lord Napier, so long as his energies continue unimpaired. He has not had, it is true, much practical experience of strategical movements on a very extended scale. What English general has? But he has been a steady and persistent student of the theory of war; he has seen much hard fighting; he has many of the highest faculties of leadership; and it may fairly be assumed that if entrusted with the supreme command he would increase, not tanrish, the lustre of the national arms."

OUTER WRAPS.

For young girls, the prettiest thing we have seen this week is a Red-Riding-Hood cloak. The material is cloth, with alternate steel-colored and white stripes. It is embroidered round the bottom to one depth of half a yard with scarlet chenille. The lining is quilted scarlet silk. The hood is made to fall over the shoulders, and on the left shoulder the ends are fastened with a knot and ends of scarlet ribbon. A knot without ends is worn on the left side of the hood just above the ear.

A stylish cloak is made of rich black gros-grain silk, and is completely overlaid with a net-work of heavy chenille. It is made in the form of the cut-away coat for gentleman, and has all the edges finished with a black feather band. There are no pockets; very large rosettes formed from the silk are placed at intervals down each side of the front.

Another, also of black silk, is made loose and belted at the waist with a broad belt with a handsome silver buckle. Around the bottom and sleeves there is a handsome trimming of black velvet foliage. The collar is velvet and rolls very low on the bosom.

NEW IDEAS IN GLOVES.

"In the highest English society," says an eastern fashion writer, "which is largely copied in this country, it is the fashion just now, especially for gentlemen, not to wear gloves in the evening. In the morning and for day visits, when the hands are likely to be more or less exposed, they are gloved with the most exquisite care; but in the evening a fine white hand is considered the distinguishing mark of a gentleman, and should not be concealed. The same principle applies to ladies also; but a bare expanse of arm; as well as hand, not being so elegant, as suggestive of the laundress, a modification or compromise is effected through the medium of exceedingly white silk or lace mits, which extends up on the arms like long gloves, and serve to shade, while they do not conceal, its beauty or the splendor of the bracelets and rings. This information may be accepted with delight by the possessors of lovely and delicate hands, but those whose 'blue' blood is not expressed in that way, or who have to use their hands, will be likely still to avail themselves of the convenient covering afforded by light kid gloves."

PARTING HINTS.

Among the present popular materials, American bourettes rank among the first.

It is said that the American manufacture of "all silk armure" is one of the most serviceable of all textile fabrics. These goods are made of double and twisted or spun silk thread in the filling and in the warp, and will wear like iron, always appearing new and beautiful.

In close conjunction of the narrow, upright collar and plaited ruffles for the neck, which are still retained, there is a revival of the deep, irregular, artistic collars and cuffs worn on the outside of the sleeve and body of the dress.

Dressy boots are made of cloth matching the suit, with foxings of French morocco of Indian goat. Round "box" toes, or square toes, or square toes slightly rounded off at the corners, are the leading styles for dress and promenade boots. Cork soles are looked on with too great favor ever to be abandoned—unless something more desirable is found—and consequently are worn more than ever this season.

Every conceivable style of sandal for house-wear is in vogue, some being made with a succession of straps around the ankle that look very much like the bauches that are popular for ladies wrists. All sandals have the high French heels, unless made to order otherwise. The comfortable Newport tie is still fashionable, made of French kid, Indian goat, or cloth side-buttoned. Very warm slippers are crocheted of double zephyr wool and lined with fleecy flannel, a fleecy sole being placed inside the cork or felt sole.

Many ladies now have with every street or traveling costume a bonnet or hat *en suite* of the material of the dress, whether that is silk or wool, and trimmed in the very simplest manner. If the costume is for the street, it will probably, if all wool, be trimmed with silk or velvet, and then the bonnet may be made of the fabric used in trimming, have perhaps a soft crown and partake of the Normandy shape or have a mere band for a brim. If the suit is in all wool diagonal or tweed, intended for rough usage, the material will be drawn plain over a hat shape, "Derby" or "Togue" bound with silk galloon and trimmed with silk cord and tassels.

THE YOUNG FOLKS.

Huckleberry.

BY FRANK R. STOCKTON.

So he went walking through the fields, and pretty soon he saw Lois, standing among her geese, who were feeding on the grass.

Huckleberry skipped up to her as lively as a cricket.

"Can you tell me," said he, "why an elephant with a glass globe of gold fish tied to his tail is like the Lord High Admiral of the British Isles?"

"Was the globe of gold-fish all the elephant owned?" asked the goose-girl, thoughtfully.

"Yes," said Huckleberry. "But I don't see what that's got to do with it."

"Then the answer is," said Lois, without noticing this little remark, "because all his property is entailed."

"Well, I de-clare!" cried Huckleberry, opening his eyes as wide as they would go, "if you didn't guess it! Why, I didn't know it had an answer."

"I wish it hadn't had an answer," said the goose-girl, suddenly stamping her foot. "I wish there had never been any answer to it in the whole world. It was only yesterday that I promised Old Riddler that I would never guess another riddle, and here I have done it! It's too bad!"

"I don't think it is," cried Huckleberry, waving his little cap around by the tassel. "It's all very well for father not to want people to guess his riddles, because they've got answers and he knows what they are. But I would never have known that any of mine had answers if you hadn't guessed one. If you had had a riddle like this one, would not you have been glad to have some one to tell you the answer?"

"Yes, I would," said Lois.

"Well, then, my good girl, remember this: If a thing gives you pleasure, it's very likely that it would have given somebody else pleasure. So let somebody else have a chance, and the next time you hear a riddle that you think the owner has no answer for, guess it for him, if you can. Good-bye!"

And away went Master Huckleberry, skipping and singing and snapping his fingers and twirling his cap, until he came to a wide crack in the ground, when he rolled himself up like a huckleberry dumpling, and went tumbling and bouncing down into the underground home of the gnomes.

"Get out of the way!" said he to the gnomes he passed, as he proudly strode to his father's apartments. "I'm going to make a report. For the first time in my life I've taught somebody something."

When Huckleberry left her, the goose-girl stood silently in the midst of her geese. Her brow was overcast.

"How anybody to do two things that can't both be done?" she exclaimed at last. "I'll have nothing more to do with riddles as long as I live."

[THE END.]

Grappling for a Lost Cable.

The "Great Eastern" was fitted out with apparatus, which may be likened to an enormous fishing-hook and line, and was sent to the spot where the treasure had been lost. The line was of hemp interwoven with wire. Twice the cable was seized and brought almost to the surface. Twice it slipped from the disappointed fishermen, but the third time it was secured. It was then united with the cable on board, which was "paid out" until the great steamer again reached Newfoundland, and a second telegraph-wire united the two continents.

The scene on board as the black line appeared above water was exciting beyond description. It was first taken to the testing-room, and a signal intended for Valentia was sent over it, to prove whether or not it was perfect throughout its whole length. If it had proved to be imperfect, all the labor spent upon it would have been lost. The electricians waited breathlessly for an answer. The clerk in the signal-house at Valentia was drowsy when their message came, and disbelieved his ears. Many disinterested people, and even some of the promoters of the cable, did not think it possible to recover a wire that had sunk in thousands of fathoms of water. But the clerk in the little station connected with the shore-end of the cable of 1865 suddenly found himself in communication with a vessel in the middle of the Atlantic. The delay aggravated the anxious watchers on the ship, and a second signal was sent. How astonished that simple-minded Irish telegraph-operator was! Five minutes passed, and then the answer came. The chief electrician gave a loud cheer, which was repeated by every man on board, from the captain down to his servant.

Twenty-sixth Annual Report of the Canada Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the Year Ending 31st December, 1877.

Your Directors beg to submit to the members the twenty-sixth annual report of the Canada Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED.

Five thousand eight hundred and seventy-one policies were issued during the year 11877, being a decrease of 880 of the number issued in 1876.

There are in all 19,556 policies in force, covering $13,441,437 00, divided into the following classes, viz.:—

Farm and household	$10,709 955 00
Mercantile	1,832,865 00
Manufacturing	898,617 00
	$13,441,437 00

You will observe that a decrease in the number of policies, and also in the amount at risk, having taken place. This is owing in a great measure to the large number of applications, many of which were for heavy lines, that were declined during the last two months of the year, and also from the cancellation of the undesirable risks, being of that class upon which the Company has suffered heavily: and by a continued careful scrutiny of the business presented for acceptance, your Directors hope in future that the claims for losses will be greatly reduced.

LOSSES.

The claims made against the Company to the 31st December 1877, amounted in all to $73,494 48, from which has to be deducted for claims preferred where no legal or moral claim can be shown	$ 19,415 23
Amount paid in 1877	41,250 85
Adjusted and unpaid, of which $6,908 83 has been paid in 1878	13,753 40
Unadjusted	9,075 00
	$83,494 48

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in hand and Bank	$ 1,272 81
31st December, 1876, cash	107 14
Premiums paid per policies	12,489 48
Do. by short date notes	32,201 58
Assessments received	32,342 09
Collections through Division Court	740 20
Law costs refunded Do.	128 43
Interest on deposits	287 00
Recovered from sub-tenant	12 50
Postage Stamps redeemed	490 00
Bills payable	27,722 37
Cash special Bank account	2,00 00
Cash do	4 000 00
Bad and doubtful	24 22
Recording fees	35 01
Bill suspense account	55 00
Premium note suspense account	458 00
	$114,460 99

DISBURSEMENTS.

Losses paid of 1875	$ 447 00
Losses paid of 1876	18,871 67
Losses paid of 1877	41 250 85
Agentson account	4,517 71
Expenses, Salaries, Postage, Printing, Stationery, and Advertising	8,035 19
Traveling Expenses, office cleaning, Fuel	968 75
Losses Investigation account	3,309 42
Risks " "	1,117 11
Rent and Taxes	655 30
" " Montreal	412 00
Law Costs, Division Court, etc	2,083 69
Directors' Fees	697 45
Auditors	110 00
Premiums refunded in cancelled and rejected risks	764 12
Assessment dues refunded	128 75
Suspense Account	17 75
Bills Payable