

In England there has been a remarkable reduction in the number of young convicts. Even as lately as 1867 it stood at thirty-two per cent. of the whole prison population. In 1892 it was twelve per cent.

The Empress of China has no sympathy with gay and flashy fashions. She celebrated her sixtieth birthday by issuing a proclamation, enjoining a general restraint of extravagance. Her Majesty has even prohibited the customary gifts of silks and jewels by ministers.

In 1882 B. F. Stuart took up 640 acres near Billings, Montana, under the "desert land" act, and went into alfalfa. He had \$500 capital. In just ten years he sold out buildings, land and stock for \$40,000. Doesn't sound like a desert experience, does it? Explains the New York Recorder.

Another Arctic expedition is to start from the United States in 1894, announces the Boston Cultivator. It is to be under the leadership of Robert Stein of the geographical survey, and its object is the exploration of the territory to the north of Baffin's Bay and the west of Smith's Sound. Eight men will form the party, and will go by steamer to Jones Sound, where a supply station will be erected. From that point the party will explore as far as possible to the north and west.

The New York Times refers to the surprising report of the Russian Department of Agriculture as to the size of this year's crop in that country. According to this report, the yield was about 336,000,000 bushels, as against 257,000,000 last year, an increase of 79,000,000. For the six years ending with 1891 the average annual exports from Russia were about 95,000,000 bushels. This official report indicates, in the opinion of BERBORN'S Corn Trade List, a well-known London authority, that Russia can spare out of this year's crop 160,000,000 bushels, a quantity greatly exceeding her exports in any year thus far.

A Berlin letter to the Chicago Times says that "The Germans, who are now the keenest competitors of the English in the markets of the world, are busy preparing to reap the harvest of the splendid success they have achieved at Chicago. The Imperial Gazette has published the long list, covering two entire sheets, of the 1,946 prizes bestowed upon German exhibits at the World's Fair. The designation 'made in Germany' can no longer be deemed a term of reproach when nearly one-third of the awards distributed among the sixty-eight countries exhibiting at Chicago has been secured by Germany alone. Indeed, complaints have already been made here that the Americans themselves are beginning to stamp their own goods with that designation in order to supply more readily the great demand for German products."

A scientist declares that there never was, and never can be, such a thing as a petrified animal body. Petrification is not a transformation of the original animal into stone. It is merely the displacement by mineral substances of certain organic tissues as they decay. But it is only the bones which are thus affected, never the flesh. "Most of the bodies," he says, "reported as found petrified, are examples of a phenomenon long familiar. They have been transformed not into stone, but into a substance called 'adipocere,' or 'grave wax.' This is a true soap into which the corpse of a human being will ordinarily be metamorphosed if buried in a graveyard or other place where water has access to it. This 'adipocere' is one of the most enduring of substances. It is not subject to decay, and the body which has assumed this constitution may preserve its form for many years, and even for centuries. Nay, for ages, since evidence on the point has been obtained from the oolite—a mollusk that became extinct millions of years ago, of large size, and built after the pattern of the chambered nautilus, but with a straight shell."

**FOR THE FAIR SEX.**

**SEASONABLE HINTS AND MATTERS OF MOMENT.**

**Woman Clubs—Women in Greece—Hair-Dressing—Gains for Woman's Education—Cross-Saddle Riding for Women—Etc., Etc.**

**FASHION NOTES.**

Children's stockings, whether in silk, lisle or woolen, are almost invariably worn to match the dress. Even plaid dresses have stockings in a plaid of the same colors.

Lace was never used to the extent of now. It decorates the sleeves, bodices and skirts of evening dresses so as almost to cover the original gown, and is seen not only in the coarse but in the costliest laces.

After all the talk about the cruelty of killing the birds, and in the face of the society formed for the suppression of bird slaying, the millinery shows a greater number of wings and birds used than for a long time.

All kinds of jeweled passementerie is made use of on evening dresses and is by no means confined to them, but flash upon hats as well as bonnets. It is also seen on the muffs of velvet or satin and in association with fur.

The Valkyrie wings arch upward most defiantly, while the Mercury wings turn gracefully toward the back of the head. Birds' heads are placed both on the crown and above the brow. Strictly plumes in the "Prince of Wales" effect of three are used a great deal on dressy hats.

Sleeves are more drooping, though excessively full, but the absence of stiffening makes them less troublesome under winter wraps. The difficulty of wearing revers and frills under tight fitting coats is met by having a zouave with revers which may be removed when the jacket is worn.

Children's shoes should be the object of particular attention. They should wear laced boots, rather high over the instep, as soon as they begin to walk and no heels at all until they are perfectly steady on their legs. Even then only spring heels should be worn until twelve years of age.



A STYLISH WINTER COAT.

A mixture of black jet and gold thread shows a lace-like pattern, forming stars between crescents. Flowers in jet include lily-like shapes, roses and rosettes, and love knots, blocks, stars and squares. The vogue of jet is greater than ever and it is used on woolen, velvet, satin and silk.

Velvet has gone through quite a transformation this year. It is to be had in crepe like the crepe associated with mourning. It is covered with spots sunk into the fabric and also with spots in relief. It is shot, mirror velvet and striped and brocaded. There is hardly any end to the treatment of it.

Picturesque dress is now studied with greatest care, and the quaint berthes and collars of olden times are to be found under modern aspects eminently attractive. A collar of pale yellow looking glass velvet embroidered in mother of pearl beads and sequins, with a network edge, would glorify any gown.

A novel accessory seen of late on independent waists consists of three extremely small rosettes in "baby" ribbon of satin or velvet, these being placed on the outside of the sleeve and running from the wrist to the elbow. Sometimes these rosettes are used down the front of the waist as well as on the wrists.

A clever woman has invented a waterproof garment which thoroughly protects the dress from wet. It is called the "duck's back," and is a stylish garment. It is so arranged as to inclose the skirts at the hem so that the ankles are perfectly protected, and may be adjusted at a moment's notice in any sudden downpour of rain.

Petticoats are becoming more and more fanciful. Indeed, when looking at them in the store windows it is difficult to decide which are dresses and which are petticoats. White spotted muslin petticoats, much befrilled, are worn

with white gowns. Colored batistes and cambrics, too, are trimmed with innumerable flounces edged with lace. They do not wash well, it is true, but they are so fascinating that one can put economy on one side and buy them.

**MRS. WILL CARLETON.**

A recent visitor to the Brooklyn home of Will Carleton describes it as an ideal one for a small family. Mrs. Carleton, the poet's mother, lives with her son, and receives from him such chivalric attention as would be looked



for from the author of "Over the Hills to the Poorhouse." Mrs. Will Carleton, of whom we give a sketch, says she usually hears her husband's poems read before they are finished, and she takes credit for being the source of many of their happy thoughts.

**WOMAN CLUBS.**

Sorosis is not the only woman's club in New York. Some of the others are the Lady Sports, the Two Williams, the Black Crooks, the Lady Typewriters, the Midway Ramblers, the Old-Time Clowns, the Original Sports, the Lady Admirals, the Black Dominoes, the Three Corpses, and the Lady Flashes. It is doubtful whether the members of these organizations have ever so much as heard of Sorosis, which goes to show how queer a place New York is.—[Buffalo Courier.]

**WOMEN IN GREECE.**

Women are not held to be of much account in Greece. When a father counts his children he does not include the females. In this country women do the farm work and they never sit at table with guests. They have inclosures in the churches and seldom are seen on the streets; their occupations and industries are menial and, in fact, the trail of the Turkish serpent is over them still. Queen Olga is at the head of a society for the advancement of women. In this school 450 females are being taught lace-making and embroidery. They pay 4c a day and also get their dinner, and their work is sold for them by the society.

**HAIR-DRESSING.**

Full waving tresses drawn back in a very simple knot that projects slightly at the crown make up the coiffure most affected at present. The hair is parted down the middle when becoming—that is, when it is very thickly set above a low and broad Greek forehead. Otherwise it is carried back and upward in a soft waving roll, and the high forehead is softened by a fringe not heavy enough to be called a bang, or by a single curl down the middle, with slighter curving tresses on the sides. A jeweled hair-pin, or one of filigree gold or silver in small comb shape, or forming a tiny wreath, a wing, a pair of wings, or a fan, is thrust in the coil at the back. The coronet front or the entire crown of jewels is worn by matrons. A cockade bow of light satin ribbon attached to a hair-pin is very popular, either in wing shape, or as a tiny choi with two pointed ends springing from it.—[Harper's Bazar.]

**CROSS-SADDLE RIDING FOR WOMEN.**

The practice by women of riding the bicycle is steadily extending, and so far as we can learn is attended with no deleterious results. It has familiarized the public with the spectacle of seeing women riding astride, and doing it gracefully. The popularity of bicycle riding among women has made it more possible for women to accept the idea of riding en cavalier, an idea which is being put in actual practice in the West. In other words, cross-saddle riding with divided skirts has gained a certain amount of recognition in a number of localities. It has been found that ladies look well, ride more safely and get better exercise in the new way. The practice of side-saddle riding is attributed to the vagary of a queen who was too deformed to use the cross-saddle. There has been a vague idea that any other method would, in young women, be disastrous by injuring the hymen. As a matter of fact, the practice of using the side-saddle has been adopted because it adapts itself to modern dress, and because without a special dress no other method would be suitable.

But cross-saddle riding is the safer way; it permits of a better and freer use of the limbs and makes the exercise more effective. All this will not make women adopt it, however. A large number of lady riders take the exercise to avoid unpleasant effects of too much fat. Side-saddle riding does not make fat women thin, however, but if anything enlarges the hips. Cross-saddle riding is more effective, because a wider range of muscles can be used and harder riding indulged in.—[New York Medical Record.]

**GAINS FOR WOMAN'S EDUCATION.**

The movement for the higher education of women advances with increasing momentum.

There are thirty women registered in the post-graduate department at Yale, an increase of seven over last year. In the woman's department of Brown University there are seventy-five students.

In the charter recently bestowed by Parliament upon the University of Wales is a clause which reads: "Women shall be eligible equally with men to any degree which the university is by this charter, authorized to confer. Every office hereby created in the university, and the membership of every authority hereby constituted, shall be open to women equally with men."—a clause which college women should be on the alert to see printed in the charters of other institutions which admit women to the student's desk, but not to the professor's chair.

Furman University, the great Baptist institution at Greenville, S. C., has opened its doors to women students desiring to pursue special studies or to stand for degrees.

At Wellington, Cape Colony, there is a seminary founded some years ago, whose faculty numbers twenty and whose alumnae include more than a thousand woman descendants of Dutch, French, and English settlers. The school is self-supporting, and the pupils compete successfully at the Government and university examinations at Cape Town.—[New York Sun.]

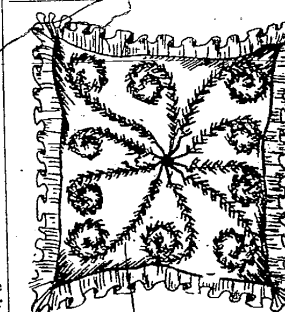
**TWO PILLOW CASE DESIGNS.**

Here is a design so good that it might well be copied again and again. Its color, which is one of its greatest charms, cannot, of course, be given in the black and white, but the drawing shows the design at least. The foundation is sage colored linen, and all the design was first shaded with black dye paint, then worked in a long and short stitch with black silk floss, and finally outlined with a couching of Japanese gold. The effect is delicious, and the pillow as handsome as many that are of double worth, yet



the work is all rapid, and there is ample time to copy it.

Another, which we recently saw, is of old blue plantation cloth, a material much in favor with those who know it, but not in common use. On it all the work is done with pure white raw silk and Honiton lace braid, and the result is lovely in the extreme. The lace is basted into place in large conventional designs, then sewed fast with radiating stitches of silk and a bit of French over and over work upon the narrow joint between each section. In the enclosed space, running here and



there, connecting all the parts are sprays worked in three-stitched lines. The entire pattern cannot represent many hours' work, yet it is most effective, and is conspicuous among a collection of pillows, many of which are far greater moneyed worth. The beauty of this one is that of dainty color and of simplicity, a combination that even splendor cannot outdo.

**HABITS OF AN EMPRESS.**

The Empress of Germany rises early and breakfasts with the Emperor every morning at 8 o'clock, says the Pall Mall Budget. At 9 she is in the nursery superintending the baby's toilet, arranging with the nurse for the walks or drives to be taken by the children, and always decides what clothes are to be worn by the young Princess. Her one extravagance is in baby clothes, and all the little garments, with few exceptions, are made by German needlewomen under her supervision. At 10 o'clock the Empress receives her housekeeper and attends to the luncheon and dinner menus, always including one or two favorite dishes of her husband's. A few moments every morning are spent in the linen room, and not a sheet or a duster is given out except under her direction. At 11 she goes riding with the Emperor or walking with two of her boys. Luncheon comes at 1, and all the children, except the last baby, are present at this meal, which is conducted without much ceremony. After luncheon the Emperor and Empress play with the children for an hour. The present ruler is the only Kaiser to whom six sons have been born in uninterrupted succession. The last comer is a girl, and about eight months

old. The Emperor and the Empress arranged without reference to their mother's wishes, but she sees that everything is carried out, and superintends their studies; is always present at their violin lessons, when they are practicing, and all their little troubles are poured into her ears.

The Empress receives from 3 until 5, and in this time considers charitable cases. There are sometimes as many as fifty guests invited to dinner, which is until 6 o'clock and lasts an hour. Beside each plate is a menu printed in German and containing no foreign dishes; also, a printed programme of twenty-four pieces of music about to be played. One servant waits upon two persons, and every little detail of the service is closely watched by the Empress. She goes every night with the Emperor to see the children, and if there is the slightest illness among them she sits up all night and sees that the doctor's directions are carried out. In the nursery she wears a soft, white flannel wrapper and a large apron. Her taste in dress is for bright colors and glossy materials. The Empress' early education was very simple, and, although she understands French and English, she does not care for foreign fashions or literature. Until her marriage she had not read a novel. She retains an early habit of writing a few lines every day in a diary which no one sees, and at the end of each year it is locked and put away in the safe with her jewels, and another one is commenced. Her bedroom and sitting room are simply furnished in blue. A large allowance is made for personal expenses, yet she makes with her own hands all the birthday gifts for her own and the Emperor's numerous family.

**Putrefactive Poisoning.**

Permit me to supplement your interesting annotation upon "Bullets as Microbe Carriers" by the following remarks, says a writer in the Pall Mall Gazette. Although in the case of the bullet the infection with poisonous bacteria is accidental, owing to striking the earth, yet it is reported that there is a tribe of aborigines in the New Hebrides who purposely make use of a telluric or earth poison for their arrows. On their arrowheads they smear dry earth taken from marshy ground, with the result that the wounds inflicted by their arrows usually end fatally in tetanus and lockjaw. Allied micro-organisms are probably also the source of those deadly arrow poisons which are obtained by savages from putrefactive matter. In the Norwegian whale fisheries, after having driven the whales toward the shore, they are surrounded by a net, which prevents them from feasting on the deeper sea. The whales are next struck with prepared putrefactive poisoned harpoons. In about twenty-four hours some of the whales begin to exhibit signs of exhaustion, probably through septic or suppurative poisoning, and are hence readily captured. It is then found that the harpoons are imbedded in masses of inflammatory gangrenous tissue.

These harpoons are removed and carefully preserved without being wiped or cleaned, to be employed for the next shoal of whales, when these harpoons are again used, producing and repeating their septic or poisonous properties. The explanation of this rapid poisoning is due to the harpoons carrying with them the germ of bacteria of an infective inflammation, inoculating the whales by getting up infective or poisonous inflammation. Narcotic and Domianin—used special putrid preparations made from the sea-hair (aphysia punctata), a kind of sea-slug or snail, for secretly poisoning their enemies. Similarly, from time immemorial, some savages have used dried putrid animal poisons for their arrows to kill men and animals.

**How Old Is the Human Race?**

The fullest answer that science can yet give to the three most interesting questions perhaps ever asked in the world are explained by Dr. Daniel G. Brinton, the ethnologist. These questions are: "When did the first man appear?" "By what process did he appear?" and "Where did he appear?" Summing up all that geologists and anthropologists know, he appeared certainly 30,000 years ago, and it may be as many as 200,000 years ago. The evidences of his existence which date back 50,000 years are unmistakable. By what process he came into being science has no definite answer. If it refuse to accept the doctrine of specific creation it must refuse also, for lack of complete evidence, to accept the doctrine of gradual evolution—the old Darwinian doctrine. Dr. Brinton thinks the theory of "evolution by a leap" is as good as any other theory. According to this, man sprang from some high order of mammal, the great tree ape, perhaps, by a freak, just as men of genius are freaks, and as all the vegetable and animal kingdom show freaks. As to where man first appeared, it is beyond doubt that his earliest home was in Southern Europe, or Asia, or North Africa. No earlier traces of him have been found than those found in the area that is now England, France, and Spain.—[Forum.]

**London's Rate of Mortality.**

The rate of mortality of London is shown by a recent report to have steadily decreased with the introduction and perfection of adequate means for disposing of the sewage of the city. In the latter half of the seventeenth century the average annual mortality is estimated at something over 80 per 1,000; at the end of the eighteenth century it had dropped to 50 per 1,000, and in 1893 it was only 19.1 per 1,000.

Sir Edwin Landseer was pre-eminent as an animal painter. His specialty was dogs.

**Tried for His Life**

**WITHIN THE SHADOW OF A SCAFFOLD.**

By MAJOR JAMES FRANKLIN FITZ

**CHAPTER I. THE WAYFARER.**

T was ago, in the year 1813, and the place was county of Essex. The highway from Chelster to London at that time ran within sight of the sea for a considerable distance of its sixty miles of distance. He who pursued this line with leisure to look him could have had glimpses of the North Sea and all that variety of life for which the shores of England is famous. He could see in bold, chalky cliffs, whose bases the waves times dashed with a roar; he could see points and promontories jutting from the land; and there were also strips of sandy beach, usually without a house, and a bay was formed by the shore, and a bay was formed by the shore, and a bay was formed by the shore.

It was an interesting road that the traveler upon this road saw, but we may well doubt whether he saw much of it who was along below Colchester near the third day of September, in the year 1813. He was a pedestrian, "af alone," his face set toward London, and he carried at the end of a stick a bundle of his clothes. His clothes were old and patched in places. His eyes were pulled low over his eyes, as if by some force of attraction, and he never stopped to observe any of the things that were to be seen on the road. He was near the shore, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore.

He saw a young man of perhaps five years of age, with a handsome face, and an easy seat in the saddle, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore. The boy was dressed in the uniform of a British artillery service, which was a sign of some rank. The wayfarer dropped his head, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore. The latter had taken no further notice of him, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore.

He threw himself moodily down the roadside. The sun was now high, and the twilight was quick at this season of the year. A near by told him that there were thirty miles of weary road between him and London. He could not keep his savage of the man who had just passed. The burden of the man was such as used thousands of miserable men, and since the wretched creature had never more bitterly did man speak than he. "I walk, he rides, I am poor, for nothing, I am a miserable creature, almost an outcast, he is a military service, proud as a peacock on him! Why can't I go on him and crush him?"

Then his thoughts turned to his own present condition. He was weary with the starting from Colchester at an early hour, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore. He had made thirty miles, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore, and he was near the shore.