

INTEREST ON THE FASHIONS

Straw Hats—Sitting for a English Women Who Dress Elaborate Belts.

STOCKINGS UNDER LEG-INGS.

are worn more sensibly than they are hot things, tolerated because they clothe the conventional way, and be-

SIGNATURE IN LINEN.

lingerie caprice. It comes and is, of course, piquant. Novelty must needs have an name embroidered in full

LABORATE BELTS.

amount of expense is made this season, and the belts are those of white kid and maroon. Bright red and black sequins and Rissa leather and pean de

WHITE STRAW HATS.

women who have been wear- ing hats for the past month to look apprehensively at and soiled brims. It is pos-

FOR A PICTURE.

the hands appear much as they are in reality. To wear a new dress. It is in awkward folds.

WOMEN WHO DRESS BADLY.

that nearly all literary badly. Mrs. Campbell-Stannard and two brils. Mrs. Praed wears the most unbecom- ingly she affects rich, Her gowns are cut fashion, but they are al-

in the way of flummery she de-

Her day dresses are always tailor made, well built, without a crease or a wave anywhere. Mrs. Stannard does not waste money on clothes. She is not ashamed to admit that a few seasons ago (before she was so well off as she is now) she did eighty parties in two rocks.

Marie Corelli dresses fairly well. Being very petite, she goes in for simple dresses. Light blue and pale pink are colors that become her well. She wears both, and sometimes comes out all in white. She has a little white hand with which she is very fond of laying down the law.

She believes thoroughly in the "beauty sleep," and nothing on earth would keep her out of bed after 12 o'clock. Literary women have mostly something characteristic about their clothes. Some of them go in heavily for jewelry, one or two show a partiality for old lace, and one lady is renowned for wearing high colors. At private views and other shows she generally makes a target of herself.

Mrs. Lynn Linton always has on a black gown and a white cap when she is at home. She wears rich stuffs—silk, velvet, brocade and the like.

The most charitably disposed person could not say that Miss Braddon ever wears nice clothes. She likes solid colors and affects velvet. Her gowns have many furbelows about them. She wears large diamond earrings with evening dress. Miss Braddon is a first-rate housekeeper.

Ouida dresses absurdly. She strives after juvenility always. Her hair she wears in a curly crop, bound by bands of ribbon.

Mrs. Walford is ever in a dowager in her attire. She likes heliotrope, and the rich, heavy materials she goes in for would look better in curtains than in dresses. Mrs. Walford is an accomplished woman. She spins, embroiders, and paints beautifully.—Tid-Bits.

TYPES OF BEAUTY.

How would our European types of beauty be received in other zones? White travelers have declared that in the heart of the tropical forest the African's shining ebony skin is considered esthetically lovely, while the white skin of the European suggests only sickliness and disease. It is clear that the question of what constitutes beauty would be answered differently by every race. To quote the apt saying of an old Greek philosopher: "Man is the measure of all things." Every race has its own Apollo and Aphrodite. The traveler Hearne, who is thoroughly acquainted with the North American Indians, says that in the eyes of these Indians the ideal of beauty must possess "a broad, flat face, small eyes, high cheekbones, low forehead, a large, broad chin, a knobby, hooked nose, a golden-brown skin." In northern China only the native Manchoo types are admired; a broad face, high cheekbones, very broad nose, and enormous ears. One of these cued Asiatics who had traveled to Ceylon, upon seeing the prominent nose of the foreign ambassador, wrote that he had the beak of a bird and the body of a man. Among the nations of Cochinchina a woman to be charming must have a perfectly round head and face. Among these colored races a white skin is regarded as ugly. White women receive little favor and attention from them. Chinese in the interior of the kingdom consider all Europeans ugly because of their white skin and prominent noses. The Siamese, with their small noses, widely separated nostrils, large mouths, rather thick lips, big faces, and high, broad cheekbones, simply cannot conceive of European beauty. Their own women, they think, are so much better looking than Europeans.—Chautauquan.

WHITE HOUSE PUPILS.

Miss Frieda Bethman, the new White House governess—no, that is not the right term, either, because she is only the kindergarten teacher to the President's children, going to the White House at 12 noon and staying just three hours by the tiny clock in Ruth's room—is a bright, up-to-date young person, ardently interested in her work. It was born in her, probably, to like it, because her mother, Mrs. Emily Bethman, has been a teacher in the Boston kindergartens ever since they were established. Miss Bethman got her first beginnings of an education in a kindergarten training school, and has been for many years employed in the Boston schools as a special instructor and trainer, says The Kindergarten News. The first instruction is only play, apparently. She teaches the little ones to sing motion songs, sitting in a low chair which forms part of the ring of chairs about her, so that all can see her, and so bright and animated does she become that the veriest dullard would get inspiration from her. She sings sweetly, and exemplifies sowing wheat by an outward motion of her hands and a graceful swaying of the body, and immediately each little one goes to wiggling fingers and feet and swaying till some one drops off a chair, and then they all laugh and begin over again. Then there is a song that begins: "Little birdie in a tree, Sing to me, sing to me." Then they all get ready to fly right up in the air, where their small fat arms are reaching, but they don't fly; on the

contrary, they more often take a tumble and sometimes that makes them cry, but she soothes and kisses them into a good humor again, and so the instruction goes on.

Miss Bethman believes that one may grow, no matter what the art that one works at, but in the main Froebel is her guide. She says that she uses the gift lessons, occupations, movements plays, games and talks with children just as the mood seems to be upon them to do certain things. If their fat legs get tired and want to be twisting she sets them dancing in some motion song in which feet play the most prominent part. If their small hands want to be clutching at something she sets their fingers to work. If they want to talk, she says to them: "Tell me a story. Tell me what you saw when you went riding to-day." After the gifts come the occupations. They are shown how to construct out of solid materials of set forms all manner of things into which wood may enter as a building material, then they turn to sewing, weaving, braiding and such occupation.

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FASHION NOTES.

Hats grow more tip-tilted as the season advances. Autumn leaves and berries are worn in traveling hats.

The London coiffure is the favored mode this season. The smaller the umbrella the more highly it is prized.

A bit of black court plaster often does duty for a missing veil dot. Marie Antoinette chic give an effective touch to summer costumes.

Some new blouses are so very Persian they look like old rag carpets. Purple vels of a very pronounced hue are seen in black tailor gowns.

Birds of paradise feathers add an air of distinction to hats with rolling brims. Among the novelties of the season are ecru linens stamped like Scotch plaids.

A bunch of clover hung up in one's bedroom will banish the persistent morning fly. Undoubtedly the most popular color schemes for country houses is the Delft shades.

Brilliant green and deep rose skirt fronts should not be worn by washed-out blonde masculines. To rub a zinc-lined bath tub once a week with a cloth dipped in kerosene will make it look like silver.

Deep lace flounces extending from waist line to skirt hem are seen on some new Summer gowns. Parisian milliners secure particularly fluffy effects through the use of pins rather than needle and thread.

The golf girl looks like a feminine Tommy Atkins, the red coat demanded by fashion producing this illusion. Check skirts with bodices of plain color strapped in military style are deemed especially chic for traveling.

Some summer blankets are made of canton flannel. They are met with largely at hotels along the coast and in the mountains. The combination of black and white is to be much worn this summer. It has the advantage of looking cool and being stunning as well.

A good rule to follow nowadays is open windows in the early morning, closed ones at noon and open ones again at early nightfall. The smart visiting glove of the season is to be cream-colored French kid sewn with slender black spots. For cyclists the deerskin glove is the rage.

There is no truth in the rumor that black stockings are no longer to be worn. Though brown are often worn for cycling, the black are just as fashionable as ever, and open-work especially so.

Some of the pretty veils selected by European royalties soon to be married are crescent-shaped and drawn up to fit the hat. They are of brown with white spots, white with black spots and pure white. Ankle bracelets are seen above some of the smart Oxford ties worn by women of ultra-fashionable ideas. The fad is too suggestive of French poodle decoration to be adopted by women of really good taste.

Net of the Garden Spider.

The net of the common garden spider consists of two different kinds of silk. The threads which form the concentric circles are composed of silk much more elastic than that which composes the rays. The concentric threads are also covered with globules of gum which is not to be found on the rays. A scientific writer estimates that a net of the average dimensions contains not less than 87,360 of these gum globules, any three of them being sufficiently adhesive to catch and hold an unwary fly. Large nets (twelve to fourteen inches in diameter) sometimes contain as many as 120,000 of these minute gum balls. The rapidity with which these nets are built is really surprising. One that contains from sixty to 100 yards of silk and which is studded with 80,000 to 120,000 gum globules is often completed and ready for use within forty minutes from the moment when the first guy-rope is anchored.

THE YOUNG FOLKS.

Never look behind, boys. When you're on the way; Time enough for that, boys, O, some future day.

Though the way be long, boys, Face it with a will; Never stop to look behind When climbing up a hill.

First be sure you're right, boys; Then with a courage strong Strap your pack upon your back, And tramp, tramp along.

When you're near the top, boys, Of the rugged way, Do not think your work is done, But climb, climb away.

Success is at the top, boys, Waiting there until Patient, plodding, plucky boys Have mounted up the hill.

"THINK." To read for instruction is commendable and to read for amusement is under certain conditions of mind or body, almost equally so. The reading one finds hard to defend is that which is done with no end in view but to "kill time." When one is tempted to this form of dissipation, it will be helpful to remember the suggestion ascribed to one of the merchant princes of Canada. Late in life after his fortune had been made, Mr. S. took a young man into partnership. Entering the office one day in the dull season, the millionaire found his partner yawning over a book. "What's that you're doing?" Mr. S. asked. "There was nothing else to do, so I'm reading," was the answer. "Nothing else to do? Reading?" the great merchant repeated, in a tone that expressed wonder, amusement and scorn. "When you've nothing else to do, don't read. Think!"

A LESSON ON THE BULLFROG.

The large, round eye of the bullfrog is peculiar in some respects, for, if we tinkle its corneal surface with some light object, as a straw, it will be noticed that the thick upper lid, covered as it is by the common integuments, has very little movement, while on the other hand, as the animal rotates its eyeball inward and beneath this, there at the same time passes up over the organ the thinner, somewhat transparent, lower eyelid. This shield, entirely covering the ball, as it does, reminds one of the structure seen in birds, and called the nictitating membrane. As soon as the irritation is withdrawn, the animal again opens his eye, which, by the way, with its truly beautiful iris, is, in my opinion, one of the most elegant structures seen in nature. Posterior to and below the eye we meet with a flat, oval area, also covered by the skin, which is the tympanum of the ear. One might possibly mistake this for a thin flat bone in the skin, but this latter tissue in frogs is perfectly smooth and is completely devoid of either scales or osseous plates. There is an American genus of frogs, however (Ceratophrys) a few representatives of which form an exception to this rule. If we puncture the ear-drum in the frog, it will be found that a fine pig's bristle may be passed by a natural passage through the opening made into the mouth. It goes through the Eustachian tube, a canal which is also present in man and other vertebrates, permitting, as it does, the vibrations of the tympanum. The fact that the frog is devoid of any neck; that its spine makes a hump near the middle of its back; the characters of its two pairs of limbs; and other external features, are all too well known to the intelligent observer and reader to require special description here.

A TAME STORK.

Some children living in one of the northern provinces of Germany discovered that a stork had made its nest upon their roof. Being orthodox little Teutons, they hailed the newcomer with favor. All the summer they shared their tidbits with their long legged friend, which became very tame and companionable. At the first signs of approaching cold weather, the stork prepared to fit to warmer climes. The children were sad at the thought of losing their pet, but their parents consoled them with the assurance that the bird would surely return the next spring. The children consulted together and evolved a brilliant idea. They wrote a little note, stating that the stork was very dear to them, and begging the good people in whose country it might spend the winter to be kind to their pet, and send it back to them in the spring. They fastened the note to a ribbon, tied it round the bird's neck and tucked it under its wing. The next day they sadly watched the stork wing its way toward milder skies. When the spring came round again, their little feet used to climb to the roof day by day, looking for the stork's return, and beheld one fine morning, there it was, tame and gentle as ever.

Great was the children's delight; but what was their surprise to discover round its neck and under its wing another bright band with a note attached to "the children who wrote the letter the stork brought." The ribbon was untied and the missive opened. It was from a missionary in Africa, stating that he had read the children's note, and had cared for the stork, and thought that children whose good hearts had prompted them to provide for the comfort of a bird through the winter would be willing to help clothe and feed the little destitute children of his mission. The children were full of sympathy, and the missionary's note won a golden answer from the family. Other letters came and went by post between them until by and by the children learned to know the missionary and his little black walls almost as well as they knew the beloved stork who had proved so trustworthy a messenger.

AN ASTONISHED SPARROW.

It is not easy to astonish a sparrow. You can't do it—"What scared you?" return, a pert, voracious kind"—and make it fly away, but that is only because the sparrow has the bump of self-preservation very prominently developed, and takes a hint as to personal danger with extraordinary promptitude. But, though it may remove its small body out of harm's way for the time being, it is not disconcerted. You can see that by the way in which it immediately goes on with its toilet. Its nerves have not been shaken—that is evident from its obvious self-possession, and the way it scratches its head and makes a note of the fly which went by. It would not commence at once a frivolous altercation with another of its kind, if it had been disconcerted.

And, really, it is not to be wondered at that the sparrow should be beyond the reach of astonishment. Think of what it sees, and sees quite unconcernedly, in the streets of London. Put a tiger into Fleet street, or a bear at the bank, and the poor beast would go crazy with terror. A single omnibus would stampede a troop of lions. Yet a sparrow surveys the approaching fire engine undismayed, and it sits with its back to the street when a runaway van comes thundering death down Ludgate Hill. The small bird's life is, in fact, so made up of surprises that it regards the astounding as commonplace. So a fly, sitting down in a train, thinks nothing of finding itself in the next county when it gets up. Its whole existence is volcanic and seismic. It cannot settle on a hand without the hand moving. What would a dog think if, on going into a ten-acre field, the field suddenly turned over? But the fly is not put out of countenance by such "phenomena." It comes back to the hand. It is the same with the sparrow. It thinks no more of another wonder than the Seven Companions did of another dragon in the day's work.

All the same, I have seen a sparrow totally confounded and all to pieces. It was, I confess, only a young one, with just the promise of a tail, nothing more, and some odds and ends of fluff still clinging between the red feathers. I was looking at the rhinoceros, which was lying down close to the railings, and a very sleepy rhinoceros it was. Except for slight twitches of the tail and an occasional fidget of the ears, it was quite motionless. And the young sparrow hopping about in the inclosure, coming to the beast, hopped onto it, looking in the chinks of its skin for chance grains or insects. And it hopped all along its back onto his head (the rhinoceros winked), and along its head to the little horn, and from the little horn onto the big one (and it blinked), and then off the big one onto its nose.

And then the rhinoceros snorted. The sparrow was a sight to see. Exploded is no word for it. And it sat all in a heap on the corner of the house, and chirped the mournfullest chirps. "I hadn't the smallest notion the thing was alive," it said. "Oh, dear! oh, dear!" and it wouldn't be pacified for a long time. Its astonishment had been severe, and had got "into the system." I remembered the story of the boy who sat on the whale's blowhole. Behemoth had got stranded on the Shetland coast. While the population was admiring it anurchin climbed onto the head of the distressed monster, and exultantly seated his graceless person on its forehead. He had but a short time to enjoy his triumph, and the next instant the whale, filling itself with air, blew such a blast through its blowhole that the boy was blown up into the air, and out to sea. So said the voracious chronicler of the day—and I hope it was true, for little boys should not, under any circumstances, sit on the blowhole of whales. Nor young sparrows on the nostrils of a rhinoceros.

Cost of Wild Animals.

People in need of wild animals, either to replenish their spring stock or to start a menagerie, will be interested in a price list just issued by a company that makes it its business to scour the jungles and hunt through the forests for specimens of natural history. The prices quoted in the original are in pounds sterling, but we reduce them to dollars in the following. The lion comes first on the list, as befits the king of beasts. The most expensive variety is the South African lion, which is quoted at \$1,500. His wife is marked down to \$500. The North African lion comes cheaper, at just half the price, while the Asiatic lion is worth \$725. The lionesses are put at \$400 and \$375. Royal Bengal tigers can be had at \$750 each; tigresses at \$450, and cubs at \$250. A serviceable hippopotamus may be had for \$1,650. Bactrian camels come at \$250 each and dromedaries at \$150. The kangaroo varies greatly in price, and so does the chimpanzee, both being quoted at from \$75 to \$1,000. The orang-outang is marked at \$500 straight; baboons from \$500 to \$750; Brazilian apes from \$250 to \$500, while monkeys may be had at prices varying from \$5 to \$95 each. The most expensive bear quoted is the grizzly, which ranges from \$400 to \$600; then comes the polar bear at \$250, and the brown bear at \$50 each. Rhinoceroses come high this spring. You can't expect to get a good one of the African variety under \$8,000, but the Indian rhinoceros is priced at \$2,000. Elephants are worth from \$1,500 to \$2,500, and giraffes are put down at \$6,000 per pair. Ostriches are worth \$400 per pair. Very few wild beasts, birds or reptiles are on the bargain counter. Small alligators may be had as low as \$2.50, and older and tougher ones as high as \$100. The rana in crocodile prices is the same. Seals are quoted at \$25, but we do not advise ladies to purchase them with the idea of raising their own sealskin sacsques. Satisfactory rattlesnakes can be had as low as \$15, while pythons range from that figure up to \$100. Croaues and storks. The price list puts the value of a full-grown gorilla at \$50,000, but the company does not guarantee to produce one even at that figure. That is only an estimate of what the creature would be worth if the dealer had him to sell.