

Of Interest to Women.

Mrs. Agnes Booth Tells of Her First Success on the Stage—William Muldoon Gives Advice to the Women Readers of the Journal.

BISMARCK'S VIEW OF IT.

Some years ago, when Mrs. Arthur Paget was Miss Minnie Stevens and one of the babies of New York, a younger brother of the Marquis de Lorne came over to this country and fell a victim to the charms of the fair American. He dared not, however, propose to her without the parental sanction, and so a cable was sent to the Duke, asking his permission. Word came back: "Say nothing definite until I have consulted your brother, whose alliance with the royal family makes his approval of your proposed marriage absolutely necessary." Argyl!

The Marquis de Lorne felt that in deference to his royal connections the Prince of Wales should be asked, who, in his turn, dutifully said that he would have to speak to his mother about it. The Queen, upon being asked, replied that since the death of the Prince Consort she had been in the habit of taking advice on important matters from one of the German princes, who was a cousin of her late husband. The prince in question declined to give an opinion without first consulting the Emperor, who in his turn passed the matter on to Bismarck. The latter, upon being asked whether the Duke of Argyl's son should be allowed to propose marriage to Miss Stevens, of New York, replied briefly: "He can do as he damn pleases."

LORNE WAS FISHING.

There is a story to the effect that when the "powers that were" decreed that Queen Victoria's daughter, the Princess Louise, must be provided with a husband, there were five of Her Majesty's subjects who were named as being eligible. The position of son-in-law to the Queen, is not, however, looked upon as in every way a desirable one, and four of the noble gentlemen in question, getting wind of the affair, promptly went off and engaged themselves to ladies for whom they had preferences. The son of the Duke of Argyl chanced to be away on a fishing trip at the time, and so heard nothing of the matter until his return to London, when almost immediately the hand of the Princess was offered to him. This was, of course, practically equal to a royal command, and very shortly afterward the marriage took place.

A QUESTION OF PHYSICS.

The omnibus was about half full when the Masher got in and took a seat next the Pretty Girl.

He had placed himself superfluously close to her, and she edged away—but little by little he crowded up to her until she was jammed into the corner.

The situation was painful, and was complicated by the glare of the women on the other side. She wondered if they thought she liked it.

The Pretty Girl turned on her pursuer. "If you want my place, sir," she said, "I shall be happy to rise and give it to you, but please don't try to occupy it while I am in it."

And the Masher pulled the strap and got out.

DISCOURAGING.

Just as legions of women, distracted between the claims of house, club, charities and social life, have begun to look forward to death as a promise of peace and rest, comes along the spirit of the late Mr. Newton, in a communication to the Spiritualists' convention, and assures them that he would gladly give them his impressions of the psychic atmosphere in which he finds himself, but that he is "pressed for time."

NEW YORK ON THE NILE.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Iselin are at the Continental.

Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., is at Shepherd's Hotel.

The Misses Wood have left their home in Dresden for the time and registered at the Continental.

Mr. John King and wife are at the Angleterre.

Mrs. James, Miss Fairchild and Miss Bryant have recently arrived at Shepherd's.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinch Smith are at the Ghazal Hotel for the remainder of the cold weather.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Watson Gilder are at Shepherd's.

Mrs. Elliott Shepard is enjoying life on a dahabiah and being steamed from place to place.

Mr. Henry White, late secretary of the American Legation in London, arrived quite recently, in company with his son, who is rapidly recovering from his late illness.

BABY'S VASSAR NURSE.

A certain New York baby who has the luck (or misfortune) of having a Vassar girl as nurse is consequently allowed to howl itself asleep day after day on the ground that it should be gotten into the habit of slumbering without extra attention from parents or guardians. In a Vassar girl this action has, of course, a lofty theoretical motive. In a plain, ordinary, uneducated Bridget it might be imputed to simple laziness. Seriously, what an immense amount of useless wear and tear and comfortlessness little children are subjected to in the name of "system!" A mother of grown children once said that she thought that the oldest child of a family was apt to be the victim of many dismal educational theories. By the time the second or third had appeared on the scene the parents had usually recognized the general hopelessness of trying to run nature into a mould, and had rediscovered for themselves the one thing certain about an infant, whether of smaller or larger growth—its uncertainty.

THEIR VIEW OF IT.

First Nineteenth Century Girl—I never did have any opinion of Adam. A man who could excuse himself by saying: "The woman tempted me," had none of the instincts of a gentleman.

Second Ditto—But what could you expect of the first man. You know it takes three generations to make a gentleman.

FIRST SUCCESS OF SUCCESSFUL WOMEN.

It is rather interesting to recall that Mrs. Agnes Booth made her first appearance here in a French melodrama, "La Pomme de Feu," in the old Booth's Theatre on Twenty-third street. The distance is long between the fiery French heroine and the volatile Young Mrs. Winthrop, the tart-eating widow of Gilbert's "Engaged," the wife of Jim the Penman, the mother of Captain Swift and Aunt Jack. Each of these names recalls



interesting memories to the theatre-goers of this city, and with each is associated the name of Agnes Booth.

Mrs. Booth is an Australian by birth. Her own story she relates as follows: "I came to America—in San Francisco—when I was sixteen years old. I played Hermione. I believe I was successful, or considered so. I suppose that was my first. I was seventeen when I played that role. My success has been very gradual. I've played with nearly all the great actors, you know, such as Booth, Jefferson, Forrest, Sothern and Wallack. You see, when I began girls had to begin at the

TEA AT FIVE O'CLOCK.

The primary object of the tea table is to provide the equipment for tea, not to become the central object of the room. The light and dainty ones are held to be in best form, and bamboo, in that it comes from the land of tea, is emulated in England, where the daily afternoon tea is much more of a function than with us, light tables are brought into the room. There is no service kept in the drawing room. Here, however, convenience makes the rule, and these small tables are found to fill a need.

The bamboo stand has the merit of being easily lifted from place to place, and can be set by the hostess's side when in demand. Delicate cups and saucers in blue or gold are harmonious in their effect, as are any of the fine Oriental wares. A tire service is in blue and white, and her coxey is of blue Japanese silk, embroidered with couplings of gold. Being a stickler for what is correct, she goes so far as to serve Japanese tea, but she makes it after the rule of a Hindoo expert. Not even silver or gold is allowed to pollute the beverage. Even such fine metal impairs fine tea. In place of the usual ball she has a fine muslin bag, fitted with a ring that just slips over the top of the pot. The rule is one teaspoonful to five cups, unless it be spiced with cream. In that case one to three is a better proportion. The tea is put into the bag. The pot is filled with freshly boiled water. The bag is slipped in, and both cover and coxey are called into use. Five minutes by the watch, and out the bag comes. The tea—clear, delicate, delicious—is ready to drink. No mortal who partakes has any right to complain. No evil effects remain. In the Hindoo's own words it is tea, not soup—for the latter is what he declares most of American make to be.

DEVILLED ALMONDS.

In England devilled almonds have almost wholly crowded the once popular salted almonds from the table, but in this country few people have ever tasted the new delicacy. Doubtless, however, the delicious dish will soon be seen everywhere. The following is the English recipe: Blanch the almonds, dry them in a soft cloth and place them in a tin with one ounce of pure salad oil or fresh butter to each half-pound of almonds. Place this tin in the oven, turning the nuts frequently to get them equally covered with the oil and browned. Then dust them with cayenne and shake them in a colander or sieve. When drained and cold they are ready for use. Some people prefer them salted as well as peppered.

On English tea tables a new fashion is being adopted that might be imitated here to advantage. Each guest is given a bright-colored Japanese napkin, neatly folded, with his cup of tea, so that the handkerchief is no longer required to do double service. Hot crumpets, muffins, or other sort of hot bread is always served in England with 5 o'clock tea and is a great improvement on the little sweet cakes and crackers used here, but for some reason, when the custom was imported, the hot bread was left out.

The Liberal Art League desires it not to be understood that it is an offshoot of the Ladies' Art Association, but an independent organization of both men and women.

WOMAN OF RESOURCE.

A New York woman who is now no more, but whose eccentricities of speech and action will long be remembered both in this country and in England, was on one occasion entertaining some afternoon callers of both sexes. The servant was told to bring some tea, which in due time appeared, but without the usual accompaniment of milk.

"Where is the milk?" asked the hostess, not in even a stage whisper.

"There is none in the house," was the answer.

"Nonsense!" said the lady. "Go upstairs and get the baby's bottle."

DINNER FLOWERS.

The fashion which prevailed some time ago of presenting expensive bouquets to one's lady guests at a dinner has entirely gone out. Now a few flowers arranged in a loose bunch are sometimes given, but anything more is considered in bad taste. At a recent dinner given by a prominent society woman vases filled with pink roses were placed here and there around the tall candelabra, which occupied the centre of the round table, and two loose, long-stemmed roses laid carelessly over one another were at each lady's place.

CYCLING NOTES.

It is from shorts that most of the objections to short skirts come. Yet men find it necessary to strap their trousers about the ankles.

An outside pocket of some sort is almost a necessity for comfort in riding. The handkerchief requires to be within easy reach, and should not necessitate fumbling with the widths of the skirt.

Beginners will do well to practise riding with first one hand, then the other, off the bar. Riding so is a somewhat difficult feat, but occasions are always arising where it is necessary to have one hand free. Flies will alight and hats will be blown one side. The ability to set such trifles aright without dismounting means considerable saving of time.

The ideal cycling girl as depicted by the artist has no place in real life. Their favorite finish to the toilet is a long boa floating gracefully in the wind. As a matter of actual experience, the boa would become a sport for high winds, and not improbably wind itself about the spokes of the wheel. A natty little collar that can be removed with ease is of far greater practical value.

Fussy and ornamental fastenings are to be avoided for both skirt and jacket. Strong, safe hooks and eyes are best for the former, and serviceable buttons—not too small—for the latter. When it becomes necessary to ride with one hand and fasten the jacket with the other, simple fastenings are sure to be keenly appreciated.

A wise precaution against cold is the carrying of a silk handkerchief tucked loosely within the wrap. Sudden changes of temperature are apt to occur, and the handkerchief can be quickly and easily drawn up round the throat.

A very important question for a girl to consider before buying a wheel is whether she will ride a diamond or a drop frame. Many a girl last season bought a drop frame, as a matter of course, and then became dissatisfied when she saw other girls speeding easily on diamond frames. Naturally, on account of the different attire required on the last named model, the majority of women will not use it. But there are many healthy, active girls who prefer comfort to conventionalism, and who, loving the exhilaration that rapid riding gives, like to take advantage of all possible facilities for enjoying it. Such girls soon convert a diamond frame and never rest until the desire is gratified.

A well-known maker recommends that the case be frequently wiped off with a chamol's skin wrung out in tepid water. Where the case is very highly polished and dark this is absolutely necessary, and little else will serve to remove the dust which settles in the fret work.

To remove finger marks and blue mold, mix thoroughly two tablespoonfuls of salad oil and one tablespoonful of vinegar. Rub on a little of this mixture with a soft rag and polish with a woollen cloth.

CHIROGRAPHY.

Blanche Danford.

This chirography indicates an ambitious nature, a fair amount of order; it is somewhat clerical, but the writer will not be satisfied with any purely mechanical work. The indications are also for an ardent nature, inclined to idealize, and a little lacking in stability.

WILLIAM MULDOON TELLS GIRLS HOW TO TAKE EXERCISE.

Although Mr. Muldoon finds the proper study of mankind is man, he admits that women may profit by some of the crumbs of knowledge from his table. To the women readers of the Journal he says: "Few people realize the importance of being reasonable and seasonable in their manner of living. Men usually smoke and drink too much, and keep too late hours in conjunction with their pressing business affairs. Health is man's natural heritage, and it is his own fault when he loses it. It is unnatural to be burdened with pain and shattered nerves; it is just as unnatural to be abnormally fat, and the men who grow purple and double-chinned before they are forty-five can always trace the deformity to an unwholesome mode of living.

"Understand, however, that fat, like many other diseases, it oftentimes hereditary. I always pity the folks who have such a hereditary inheritance. Exhaustion should be guarded against." He stooped and picked up a large, brown leather ball from the floor. "This is a padded ball; it is a trifle larger than a football, you see. There are a number of them, and all are about the same size. Every morning at 6:30 o'clock the men come up here attired in black lights and sweaters and 'throw the ball.' They are shown how to pitch it from the side and then from above the head. They keep the several balls in vigorous motion until each man glows with the rapture of rapid circulation. This ball throwing is excellent—just take a try at it yourself. Don't stop until I say 'enough.'" I grasped the ball awkwardly at first, but as Mr. Muldoon flung it back to me from the other end of the long room I took a few pointers and made a number of good bounding throws. When the word "enough"

else reduce flesh, as well as build it up?" "Yes, indeed. Of course you must understand that I am obliged to use my own discretion regarding the amount different patients require. What is food and air to one man may be poison to another. For example, I may have a very fat man enter here the same day a sickly, thin man arrives. I put them on the same diet, have them take the same sort of exercise; at the end of five weeks the fat man will have grown lean and the thin man quite plump."

"Will you please tell me whether a woman could reduce her hips after they had grown too stout to be graceful?"

"That is an absurd belief with many," he replied. "Flesh cannot be trained down on any one part of the body; it must be a uniform reduction. Reduction of fat means destruction of tissue. The destruction of tissue is caused by vital combustion, the

such exercise. It seizes and strengthens the arm and back muscles, and, above all things, deepens and broadens the chest."

"Tell me, Mr. Muldoon, does such exercise the better and purer the blood becomes. Oxygen creates carbon, therefore the necessity of physical and open-air exercise. Too much strong drink and the deadly little cigarettes should be excluded from one's daily life."

"Do you mean that women should not drink or smoke? I have heard that a few do at times."

"Oh, do not misunderstand me; I was only referring to men, remember."

"Don't you think women could become beautifully slender or gracefully plump by following your simple rules of hygienic exercise? It is all so agreeable—the ball tossing, the cold showers, the plain, whole-



age from generations of careless ancestors. I am not prepared to talk on the subject of women. I do not pretend to know much about the gentler, more lovable sex. My business has always been the study of men, and I assure you it has been an exhaustive undertaking; however, I have no doubt that a woman could make up a similar treatment to that which I put my men patients under, and by discreet exercise and plain, wholesome food might reap as much benefit as they invariably do. If you desire, I will be pleased to show you how a patient is put under training, and will explain anything you wish to know."

Following him up two flights of stairs, a large room on the top floor was reached. "This is a sort of general exercising room," said Mr. Muldoon. "I do not believe in the regular gymnasium labor; it is too straining, and often overtaxes the nerves of men who

came at last I found that my bangs were damp from the unusual exercise and that my collar was a dejected, wrinkled affair.

Without pausing to comment, however, the great trainer proceeded: "After the gentlemen finish their ball tossing they hurry down to the bath room and take a quick shower bath of cold water. Nothing is more healthful. The sudden contraction caused by the shock sends the blood scurrying through veins and arteries which usually are choked with stagnant blood and poisonous particles. After the shower and a quick rub-down, the patients come in here and have their 'morning eye-opener.' In the form of large tumblers of hot water. This is for the purpose of cleansing the stomach of impure secretions, which usually form during sleep, especially in dyspeptic and thin-blooded people. I am always very careful about the patients'

manufacturing of poisons. Carbonic acid and uric acid are two great essentials, being well wrapped up during their 'hot water' picnic. After a plain, wholesome breakfast at 8 o'clock, I prescribe two hours of pleasant recreation. At 10:30 o'clock we start out, either for a horse back ride or 'cross country' walking. There is nothing more beneficial to man, woman or child than plenty of outdoor walking. It should be made a pleasure; otherwise it is harmful. In the afternoon I insist on an hour's rest; then a walk in the grounds for an hour, and perhaps a trip to the barn, where a warm, healthy circulation may be started by 'punching the leg' for twenty minutes or half an hour. I must confess that the expression of 'punching the leg' does not sound very delicate, yet I cannot help thinking that a woman would derive much benefit from

some food, the brisk, happy walking, and even 'punching the bag.' Don't you think it would rid many women to health and new abominations?"

Mr. Muldoon shook his head. "I would be glad to express myself decidedly on the subject, but I must decline to give an emphatic opinion on a matter I know little about. I don't see why such exercise should not be very beneficial, however."

Though he only accepts men as patients, he consents sometimes to advise women he knows regarding some special diet, or a light form of exercise. Many an actress and well-known society woman has received kindly instructions which have not been ignored. His advice is always to eat plenty of sweets after meals. This to thin women. Flethy women, beware of them, but not be farsome of exercise and abundant fresh air.

SHE LOVES THE DART.

A beautiful young matron of this town tells that when she was quite a little girl a dear friend presented her with a little tortoise shell arrow which she wore for a long time in the thick braids that hung down her back. When she was in her teens her mother gave her a silver arrow. On the occasion of her debut into society she wore a gold one, the gift of her father, and on her wedding day her veil was held in place by a diamond arrow, which had been given to her by the bridegroom. The latter she values more than all the costly jewels which her husband has given her, because, she says, it is associated with all of those that she has loved best in her life.

The most beautiful destiny: to have genius and be obscure.

JOLLY VASSAR GIRLS.

An observer who has seen something of female colleges declares that girls go to Bryn Mawr to study, but to Vassar to have a good time. Many of the students at the last named seat of learning come from country villages or small places in the far West, where there are few opportunities of varying the monotony of their daily lives. The very fact of being in a community composed of several hundred girls, the majority of whom are full of energy and animation, and ready at all times for a good laugh and any sort of "lark," is in itself a pleasure that is well worth the daily struggle with trigonometry and the classics.

The fashionable stationers are engraving visiting cards on very thin pasteboard.

GRAMMARETTES.

Pointers for Women Who Wish to Speak Pure English, Vide the Best Authorities.

Pick is frequently misused for pluck or gather. You should gather or pluck flowers, not pick them.

Fall For autumn is a common misuse of the word. The seasons are divided into four parts—Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Fall means to drop down; Autumn means the third season of the year.

Authoress, Doctress, Sculptress, etc., are constantly misused for author, doctor, sculptor, etc. An author is one who writes, a doctor one who practices medicine, a sculptor one whose profession is sculpture. If you give the feminine termination to these words when applied to women authors or sculptors, you should be consistent and speak of a woman skater as a skateress, a manufacturer as a manufactureress, and a writer as a writeress, a woman cook as a cookess, and a woman walker as a walkeress. One is just as correct as the other.

Retire—For going to bed. Retire really does not mean going to bed. We do not presume to think that Miss. Enid when she finally does retire will take to her bed. Squamish people and prigs may continue to retire, and no one will lament the fact, but sensible women and girls go to bed and say so when occasion requires.

A SCHEME IN GREEN AND VIOLET.

Old yet stylish effects are an object this Spring. A gown which meets both of these desires is of warp printed taffeta in a busy Dresden design. The skirt is full, but not strikingly so, and quite

THE COUNTRY AHEAD.

It is a curious fact that the first free library in this country was not started in a literary centre, but in the country village at Peterborough, N. H., where, in April, 1833, the town voted to purchase books for a town library. This it has continued to do ever since. The library is open Sundays as well as week days.

DOINGS OF SOCIETY.

Thursday Mr. and Mrs. N. L. McCready entertained at a dinner party. A number of invitations have been issued to this, the third of their series of large affairs.

Mrs. John Sherwood talks on "The Palace of Louis of Bavaria" at the Hotel Windsor Thursday afternoon, for the benefit of charity.

The Amusement Club, so handsomely entertained on Tuesday last by Mrs. von Beverhout Thompson, will accept the hospitality of Mrs. John Jay White, Jr. The club will congregate at Mrs. White's residence, from thence to be driven to the Garrick Theatre, where they will witness a performance of the "Squire of Wales." An elaborate dinner will be served at the White home after the performance.

The Society of Colonial Dames has recently patched up all difficulties existing within its ranks, and meets to smoke the "pipe of peace," so to speak, on March 12. The pink ballroom at Sherry's has been secured for the event, and luncheon will be served amid patriotic surroundings. Flags and bonnets will be gaily festooned about the improvised banquet hall, and armorial bearings will signify the importance of the event, as well as suggest the memory of those heroes by whose grace their descendants are permitted to flaunt the accident of birth in the faces of the less fortunate many.

"The Kulebocker Driving Club" make merry at their headquarters Thursday evening. An unusually attractive programme has been arranged, and fancy driving with attendant manoeuvres will be a feature of the exhibition. A collation will be served in the club rooms proper at 10 o'clock.

