

A GOWN OF LAVENDER SILK

By MRS. BESSIE D. DUCEY

Jackson Grey and I had quarrelled on Thanksgiving eve, but as we were both guests at Aunt Elizabeth's we had agreed to say nothing of the broken engagement until after the holiday. Under protest I consented to wear the diamond circlet a few days longer.

GERMAN RIVER THAT LEAKS

Interesting Experiments to Prove How the Danube Feeds the Rhine.

It has long been known that there is an underground connection between the Danube and the Rhine to the profit of the latter river, which seems at times to be swollen a trifle, while the upper Danube is proportionately impoverished. The fact has recently been more fully demonstrated by interesting experiments.

THE DENATURING OF WOMAN

Why Her Helplessness Makes Her More Charming to Man.

Professor Thomas, of Chicago University, writing of "The Psychology of Woman's Dress," says: "The proverbially hollow mind of the very beautiful woman is not due to the exhaustion of nature's resources on her exterior but to the fact that her attention is so bound up with the expression of her own charms that it stops with that. And the beauty of a woman who competes with her has a still more absorbing problem. The foolish and disrespectful customs of courtesy which men practice toward women are also a rod of woman's dress, and tend to keep her helpless in mind and body. The helplessness involved in lacing high heels, undivided skirts, and other impediments of woman's dress has a certain charm to the eyes of man. Their helplessness shows him off better by giving freer play to his protective and masterful instincts. It is his heroic opportunity since the disappearance of large game and into the piping times of peace. To flatter this disposition of man woman therefore assumes even greater helplessness than she possesses, and the most romantic periods in history are those characterized by tight lacing and purposive fainting."

A Lucky Exchange

By SAMUEL L. ADELSON.

"Henry," said Mrs. Jennings, looking up from the evening paper, "I just read of a man who was run down by an automobile owned by his brother for whom he had been searching for many years."

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Sad Tale from Emporia.

A well fed horse drove into town behind a span of ancient men, whose knees were sore from falling down and striving to get up again; their poor old ribs were bare of meat and they had sores upon their necks.

The Owl Increases in Numbers.

Happily the true character of owls is coming to be better understood. There are still some who regard them with awe as "death boding," and there is testimony which cannot be gained to prove that occasionally individual owls, both brown and long eared, have been known to kill a young partridge or young pheasant. But these are beyond doubt exceptional cases—aberrant individuals like sheep killing dogs—while the proof is overwhelming that the generality of owls confer incalculable benefit on man by the destruction of rats and mice and moles, as well as of many species of insects which are "noxious" from the human point of view.

The Convict Ship.

Readers of "The Convict Ship" will be interested to know that until recently one of these craft was in existence. The ship a few years ago was moored and exhibited in the Thames. It had taken to Australia between Blackfriars and Westminster in its time 137,000 poor wretches exiled from England for various offenses. The vessel sank in Sydney harbor, but was later raised and sailed to England. It had seventy-two cells, a black hole and a chapel. The ship began its voyage to Australia in 1787 and sailed eighty-one years, in which time it carried to imprisonment and exile 116,842 men and 20,319 women.

American Pictures Accepted.

Two pictures by a St. Louis sign painter have now been accepted by and are hung conspicuously in the Paris salon. The artist is Gustav Wolf, known in St. Louis as the head of a company for decorating billboards and known in Paris as a landscape painter of rare ability and exquisite workmanship.

A Queer Selection.

"Fight the Good Fight" seems rather a sinister choice of hymns for the marriage service. Yet it is often selected.

Turtle Tortoise Shell.

Most of the tortoise shell of commerce is obtained from the hawksbill turtle, which is taken chiefly in the Caribbean Sea. Turtles caught in these waters vary in size, from 1 to 4 1/2 feet long, with a maximum weight of 150 pounds, and the average weight of shell obtained from each is from 6 to 7 pounds. The commercial value of tortoise shell depends upon the thickness and size of the plates rather than upon the brilliancy of the colors. The price of shell in this market fluctuates from \$3 to \$6 in gold per pound. As the best prices are obtained in England, the largest amount of the shell shipped from these parts goes to that country. The San Blas Islands, however, trade a large amount of shell to coasting schooners, which is partly carried to the States and partly brought to Colon.

Splitting the Difference.

When jurymen in Stony Gulch disagree, there is usually some member whose influence, backed by his recognized "handiness" with a gun, carries the day. "Some thought he'd ought to get three thousand," said Bud Lewis, referring to a recent case, "but I persuaded 'em to compromise." "Indeed," said the stranger, with a wary eye on Mr. Lewis's gun, which he seemed to be fondling in rather a careless way. "What sort of a compromise?" "I put it to 'em, 'Why not split the difference and call it five hundred?' And when I'd brought my reason to bear on 'em," said Bud, with a loving gaze at his weapon of defense, "they all come round to that compromise in no time."

Insulted.

Andrew Thomas was a great "forgetter." He forgot to pay the money he owed, and to give people back the things he borrowed. Moreover, he was "touchy" on the subject, so that few of his friends liked to hint that he had any of their property in his possession. One day one of them took his courage in his hand, and asked, "Where's that five dollars you borrowed of me last month, Andrew?" he asked. "I don't want to seem tight, but I've just got to—"

Three Religions in China.

There are three existing religions in China, Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism. No ecclesiastical hierarchy is maintained at the public expense, nor is there any priesthood attached to the Confucian religion, although that is the state religion. The bulk of the people are Buddhists, but many, to be on the safe side, practice all three.

Star-titled the Baby.

An Atchison only child says she was so carefully raised that when she was a baby, and her mother's callers kissed her, the minute the callers left, her mother rushed upstairs with her and star-titled her.—Atchison Globe.

Both Phones