

Notes and Comment

Of Interest to Women Readers

THE WOMEN OF SPAIN.

Fettered by Both Custom and Law, They Lead Narrow Lives.

The vast majority of Spanish women still believe that it is degrading for a lady to take up any work for which she is paid. Therefore if they do not marry they either enter a convent or live with a member of the family and they do not at all mind being dependent on the charity of friends or relatives.

Though marriages are often arranged without the consent of the bride-elect, law or custom gives the Spanish woman the power of appealing to a Magistrate if she wishes to escape from a union which is distasteful to her.

According to the Queen the Magistrate may take her from her father's home until she is of age while if she determines to marry a man of whom her parents disapprove she may place herself under the protection of the law, and she cannot be deprived of her share of the family estate.

On reaching her majority, she enjoys the same privileges as her brother with regard to property and may inherit, will, buy and sell, but when she marries she reverts to the position of a minor and her husband has the control of all her possessions which he can squander without rendering any account to her though she cannot spend a penny of her own money without his consent. He may desert her and her children without incurring any punishment or public condemnation. A Spanish wife contemplates on her husband the titles of nobility and any privilege connected therewith she may possess at the time of her marriage.

Public opinion is still so strongly opposed to their education that it will be a long time before they are fitted to take their share in their country's work and many women are so ignorant that they can hardly read their missives or write their names. This is especially the case in small country towns. At Madrid schools have been opened for their instruction and the classes have been conducted by excellent professors but comparatively few women have availed themselves of the privileges.

COSTUME IN SILK VOILE.



A lovely house or informal evening dress is this in shades of rose voiles. The oddly-arranged sash is of soft satin.

Mrs. Belmont's System of Buying.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont is taking a greater interest in Newport than ever, and the townspeople are showing her that they are pleased she is back and living at Marble House.

Mrs. Belmont has installed a perfect system at Marble House regarding the ordering of her supplies of every kind, which is done by an order slip. This slip is receipted by Mrs. Belmont personally. At the end of the month these order slips are returned with the bill to Mrs. Belmont, and if the slips and bill correspond, the payment by check immediately follows.

Mrs. Belmont is looking extremely well and does considerable of her shopping personally.

When Cutting a Garment.

In cutting out a shirt-waist, or, in fact, any garment, it is well to fold the goods with the wrong side innermost, for by so doing you will have rights and lefts in the cut-outs and you will not run the danger of having two sleeve pieces, say, of the same pattern. It will be found economical, usually, if in planning a shirt-waist, the fronts are first cut, then the sleeves, and lastly the back piece. If necessary, the back can frequently be pieced, a plait or a group of tucks covering the piecing.

Of Interest to Women

The American Women Good "Evergreens"—They Retain Their Charm and Youth Until Middle Age—The Honorable Mrs. Fitzroy Stuart States so in One of Her Articles.

According to an Englishwoman, the Honorable Mrs. Fitzroy Stuart, writing in the Strand, American women make good "evergreens." "Evergreens" are women who have retained their charm until long past the period of life when most of their sisters have slumped into middle or old age. In botany an evergreen is a tree which does not shed its foliage, so a human evergreen is the man or woman who never comes to toupee, cane or pivot and remains unchanged by the flight of time. Among the remarkable American evergreens the Honorable Mrs. Fitzroy Stuart mentions the Duchess of Manchester, the Honorable Lady Carrington, Lady Paget and Mrs. Cornwallis West. In England Queen Alexandra is a remarkable instance of a woman who has retained past the prime of life the charm, beauty and fascination of her youth. Some of our great artists seem to have solved very successfully the problem of not growing old. There is Bernhardt, for instance, whose life still continues to be one of undiminished activity. Marcella Sembrich is another of whom one can truthfully say "Age cannot wither nor custom stale her infinite variety." Lillian Russell's undiminished good looks remain the wonder of theatre goers able to compute the number of years she has appeared on the stage. Ninon de l'Enclos is said to have retained her radiant beauty until after she was ninety. Cleopatra, so history tells, was forty when Antony fell in love with her, and Mme. Recamier had reached the allotted three score years and ten when Horace Walpole found her so charming. All of which is decidedly cheering to us who at thirty-five feel that we have had our fling and must now step out of the way for the youngsters who have watched play about in pinafores.

A Restaurant Hat.

Although there is a strong tendency toward wearing moderately small hats on the street, picturesque ones will be worn in the evening at the restaurant supper, which has become such a



feature of our life and at the play. The sketch shows a high crowned moire hat in King's blue, trimmed with one sweeping feather and a few short ones.

Silk Handkerchiefs.

In washing silk handkerchiefs care should be taken to prevent their turning yellow. A silk handkerchief should never be boiled, nor have any soap rubbed upon it. Make a lather of finely shredded white soap and water, wash and squeeze the handkerchiefs in it, press out all the moisture possible, and dry quickly in the sun, ironing them while they are still damp, but not wet.

White silk handkerchiefs used as neckties are sometimes cleaned very well with dried and powdered starch in which a little powdered blue has been mixed.

The handkerchief is spread over a clean linen cloth and with a pad on clean white linen the powder is rubbed over the silk, then dusted out, after which, with a moderately hot iron and two folds of a slightly damp linen laid over the silk on the right side, the handkerchief is ironed.

Becoming Real Suffragette Leader.

Kate M. Gordon of New Orleans promises to become the real leader of the suffragettes in this country. She has forced herself to the front in the last two years, and now, as chairman of the Susan B. Anthony fund for the promotion of equal suffrage, she is in an official position of great power and influence. She is confident she will succeed in raising the \$1,000,000. Her present object is to get 100 women to give \$1,000 each and 1,000 women to give \$100 each. She has arranged for subscription work in the North, and for the next few months will centre her personal effort in the South. Miss Gordon thinks that the cause of equal suffrage is not gaining headway rapidly enough in the South and she aims to arouse the interest of the women in all the Southern States.

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A NOVELTY IN FANS.

When Closed It Closely Resembles a Bouquet of Flowers.

A decidedly novel and attractive fan, that first appeared in the ball-rooms of Paris, is that shown in the illustration. The framework of the article is like that of an ordinary fan, but through holes in the tops of the sticks a ribbon is strung. At the end of each stick is sewed an artificial flower, rose, lily or some other type, and running from the bottom of the



handle to the top is a broader piece of ribbon, tied in a bow. When the fan is closed it so closely resembles a bouquet of natural flowers that the difference is impossible to detect, except on close examination. The illustration is helped by the flowers, being perfumed so that in odor, too, they resemble the blooms they represent. A fancy metal ring which may be of precious metal, and which looks like a bracelet, runs up outside the sticks when the fan is closed and holds them together. As can be seen, the novelty combines usefulness with a high degree of ornamentality.

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF A HUSBAND.

By Lucile M. Dole.

The answer is don't—by all means don't take care of him. No woman enjoys his presence more than man, and when he reaches the stage of domesticity, where he can't put the buttons in his shirt, or select his ties, or pack his suit case, he reminds one of the family dog who has outlived his usefulness and ought to be dead—but none of the family have the nerve to chloroform him.

Did you ever see a man in your life whose wife waited on him hand and foot who wasn't crazy over some woman who let him fetch and carry for her, and wouldn't know whether the long button went in the back or front of his shirt?

There was once a man whose family handled him tenderly, for they feared a stroke of apoplexy if he ever as much as laced his shoe.

This said man met a widow—whose slippers had a chronic habit of becoming untied.

Well did he tie them? He did—until his face was lobster hued and sighed that she hadn't the feet of a centipede.

A man doesn't want a valet—he wants a wife.

So have a care, sisters. It's better to omit than to commit.

Was World-Famed Eye Specialist.

The death recently of Dr. Charlotte Ellaby, one of the foremost eye specialists in the world, was due to the nervousness developed in a journey from London to India to perform a double cataract operation on the Ranees of Jamnager. She was in poor health before she left London, as a result of wearing duties in her profession. Dr. Ellaby was the daughter of a clergyman. She was graduated from a medical school in Paris, and at once went to Bombay, India, where she practiced in the Cama Hospital for Women. In addition, she did an extensive general practice. Weakness under the severe Indian climate, she returned to London and became the first ophthalmic surgeon in a hospital for women and children. When she died she was consulting ophthalmic surgeon and lecturer on ophthalmic surgery to the London School of Medicine for Women and a member of the faculty of medicine of the University of London. She received a fee of many thousands of dollars for her trip to India for the single operation on the Ranees' eyes and also was provided with first-class return passage.

Entertaining Mother.

One of the Appleton girls, who has nine children, comes home every spring and stays with her mother all summer, and in the winter lets several of the children stay with their grandmothers. "I don't want mother to ever know the horrors of Lorraine Lane," she explains.

Of Interest to Women

Girls Learn Farming in Camp—How to Milk Cows, Make Hay and Raise Chickens, is Taught—Rare Skill is Shown in Transformation of Barns to Show Places and Club Rooms.



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