

FADS AND FASHIONS.

Pretty Dress Goods and New Ideas in Hats for the Summer Season.

In the mixture of materials to be seen this year, silk is made up with wash goods. For instance, gowns of black or heavy wash materials have broad black collars, narrow belts and flaring cuffs of black silk, some with applications of cream guipure lace.

There is a tucked stock and yoke of white with a bow of black. In some of the gowns folds on the skirts have pipings of black silk, says the New York Times.

Pretty stuff gowns of light woolen or silk and wool materials have the lower half of the sleeves from just below the elbow made of wash material in ticking or fine embroidery and lace.

This is not with the undercollar effect, but a plain straight finish to the sleeve. It is a pretty, cool and comfortable fashion.

Some nice girls are wearing for morning or with simple little wash frocks unpretentious little ties of sheer lawn or mull. They are about two and a half inches wide, and long enough to go twice around the collar and tie in a pretty little bow.

HIS TREASURE.

What the Youth Held in His Hand, and Why He Smiled When He Looked at It.

He was arrayed in all his spring finery, quite perfect and irreproachable from the tips of his gleaming shoes to the crown of his shiny hat, says the New York Commercial Advertiser.

He had ceased his pensive contemplation of the flowers and was gazing intently at something which he held in the palm of his gray-gloved hand.

"But he keeps turning it round and round and looking at it in different ways. See—why—he's smiling."

"So he is," admitted the other, reluctantly. "I guess it's a new cigarette case."

"Oh, I shall just die if I don't see what it is. I've an idea. I will walk by him quietly, and then he'll put it away, and you watch hard while he's doing it to see what it is."

Peel two quarts of ripe peaches, place in a dish with one small cupful of sugar and set in a cool place for two hours; wash fine, add one quart of water and freeze. This makes a delicious dessert. Oranges may be substituted for peaches if preferred.—Brooklyn Eagle.

THE TALE OF A DOG.

Lengthy Yarn Helped to Cut Short the Life of Several Publications.

The discussion at a recent Bohemian gathering, at which all manner of stories, entertaining and otherwise, went round the festive board, and were laughed at indiscriminately, at length became a grave and dignified nature and the particular subject that engrossed much scientific thought and learned views was, "How to Cure a Dog's Tail," relates the Detroit Free Press.

Of course, this subject included not only the process of docking a dog in the most painful manner possible, but also the best method of enhancing his appearance and making him an envied animal in the matter of dog fashions.

"Well, gentlemen," he thoughtfully observed, "I'll tell you my experience on the subject. You all know, or at least some of you do, that I have been ambitious in the literary line. It's a yearning that I have never been able to suppress, though magazine and newspaper editors have done their best to cure me of the habit of bursting forth into poetry periodically or of writing didactic essays upon profound subjects that I know nothing about.

Not the Real Thing.—"Bah!" exclaimed the Prospective Purchaser to the Expectant Book Dealer. Being asked for an explanation of his ejaculation he said "You call this book a 'Collection of Portraits of One Hundred Authors.' Why, only three in the bunch have their heads resting on their right hands, with a roll of manuscript in the left."—Baltimore American.

Then the crowd tendered him an ovation.

MILLING CHOCOLATE.

Some Suggestions Concerning the Preparation of a Delicious Beverage.

The process of stirring chocolate while it is cooking with a "mill" does not produce the heavy froth on it seen on a cup of chocolate served at fashionable restaurants. The froth is a spoonful of whipped cream added to the cup of chocolate just after it is poured out. It is, however, very desirable, says the New York Tribune, that chocolate be thoroughly stirred while it is cooking, in order to avoid lumps and to prevent the oil separating from other ingredients and rising as a scum to the top.

When a man says life isn't worth living, he needs to live a better life.—Somerville Journal.

Make It Worth Living. When a man says life isn't worth living, he needs to live a better life.—Somerville Journal.

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HUMOROUS.

"How did you get your hand so sunburned?" "Driving your tandem."—Yale Record.

After the Play.—"How naturally the leading man died in the fifth act." "Yes, he did that part so well that it was a pity he didn't do it in the first."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Golf and Chess.—Foolie—"I suppose you are willing to admit that golf is an intellectual pastime?" Bunker—"Yes, in about the same sense that chess is an athletic game."—Boston Transcript.

He Accepted.—Merchant—"They tell me you're a good salesman. How would you like to come to us?" Salesman—"I'll be glad to if you'll give me what I want." Merchant—"I couldn't think of giving you that, but I'll give you what you expect."—Philadelphia Press.

Uncle Reuben—"I jes' cum 't town 't get a couple o' sideboards, an' tho' I'd drap in 't see you." City Niece—"Why, Uncle Reuben, what do you expect to do with two sideboards in your house?" Uncle Reuben—"Say, I'm talkin' about my farm wagon. What air you talkin' about?"—Columbus (O.) State Journal.

Smith—"I suppose Dobber regards himself the greatest artist that ever handled brush." Jones—"You do Dobber an injustice. He never presumed to regard himself in any such light. Why, I have heard him say, very modestly, that he was a second Raphael. Isn't that admitting that Raphael was a greater painter than he?"—Boston Transcript.

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TRAVELS A MILE A MINUTE.

High Speed Reached by a Trolley Car in the Slow-Going City of Philadelphia.

In whatever other respects Philadelphia may be slow she has a trolley car which sweeps through the city in the gray hours of dawn and which, taken day by day, is swifter than anything else of its kind or class in the world. It starts from the heart of the city just after the newspapers are out of press and tears away through the silent streets in a northerly and westerly direction, up and down hill and along valleys, with occasional stops to throw out bundles until 27 minutes later it rests on the northern summit of Chestnut hill, 14 1/2 miles away. This is at the average rate of 35 miles an hour, including at least one stop every three-fourths of a mile, says the New York Sun.

Sometimes on its route it has run a mile in 1 1/2 minutes and it has made the distance in 25 minutes, including the stops, which is just the schedule time of the steam express trains for practically the same distance between the same places, though on neither the Reading nor the Pennsylvania railways do the trains make any stops. Sometimes, as on market day, there are interruptions when sleepy teams get on the lines of metals, and occasionally another trolley car gets behind time and doesn't give it the right of way promptly, but despite the occasional delays, for two years, in all conditions of weather, facing rain or snow, with mechanical incidents adverse to its career, it has made on an average 35 trips out of 35 on time and only once has it been longer than 45 minutes in covering the distance. On that occasion the wreck of a hay wagon was on the road and for this the Eagle Flight trolley was not responsible.

From the fact that this car carries the morning newspapers for distribution it might be thought to be a journalistic enterprise in Philadelphia, but this is not the case. It is an experiment by the Union Traction company to test the maintenance of high speed and the evenness of schedule time under conditions peculiarly favorable for securing exact factors for all the problems it is sought to solve. Every trip is observed by electrical experts, the induction is estimated, the power measured, the state of the metal, the thermometrical and barometrical conditions noted, as well as the humidity and fog at the different elevations along the line, and when 1,000 trips have been made the data thus gathered will be considered, with a view of formulating a result to be applied in such directions of economy and accelerated speeds as may be opened up.

Athens a City of Sunlight. The person who rides into Athens for the first time on a summer's day is fairly overwhelmed with the brightness of it. It is a city of sun, a city fairly blinding to eyes accustomed to the dull skies of London or New York. The sky is extraordinarily clear and as vividly transparent as the windows in a photographic studio. The square houses, of stone and stucco, are nearly all kalsomined to a dazzling whiteness. In the case of the few exceptions the whitewash has been tinted a delicate pink, cream color or blue, and they are all roofed, from the king's palace down to the meanest hotel, with red tiles. White and red—the colors of fire and heat.—Scribner's Magazine.

The Very Latest. Sunday School Teacher—God first made the world and all the beasts and the birds. Now, what was the last thing he created? Willie Green—Why, I guess it's the brand new baby that came to our house Friday. I ain't heard of anything later.—Philadelphia Press.

Was a Large City. The largest city in the country in Washington's time was Philadelphia. It had 69,000 inhabitants.—N. Y. World.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

There are 439 women students at the University of Berlin. Last winter there were 431.

Of the 381 new students at the State Agricultural college of Kansas, 95 are young women.

Bishop Hargrove of the Methodist Episcopal church south has given \$6,000 to Vanderbilt university as a thank offering to the twentieth century educational movement of the church.

The public school teachers of Galveston donated their services for one month to that city, thus making it possible with the money on hand to continue the schools in operation for five months.

Miss Harriet Boyd, who has in charge the department of archaeology at Smith college, is a former graduate, studied at Athens and served as nurse in the Greek army during the last war with Turkey.

Booker T. Washington has received a letter from Andrew Carnegie announcing a gift of \$20,000 for the erection of a library building for Tuskegee institute. The building will be erected entirely by student labor.

It is stated that Methodism in Michigan has grown much faster than the population of the state has increased in the last decade, and the membership of the church in Detroit has increased faster than the city has grown in population.

The old Methodist church at Hightstown, N. J., erected in 1853, was recently sold at auction for \$700. The lot on which the church stands was formerly a graveyard, so that the old church is literally a monument to the early Methodists of the village. A new church has been built, hence the sale of the old one.

CHILDREN BOUGHT AND SOLD.

Slavery as It Exists in the Northern Parts of Eastern Siberia.

The Russian News, of St. Petersburg, publishes an account of the Siberian traffic in human beings, sent by a correspondent in Yakutsk, the most important town on the lower Lena river. He describes the pitiful conditions in these northern districts, and says they are responsible for the selling of children into slavery.

Three classes of people live there, Russian officials and merchants, Russian peasants and Yakut natives. It is the Yakuts who have the children to sell. The Russian peasants buy them and sell them again at a good profit to the officials and merchants.

The Russian peasants are not living in those bleak and inhospitable regions of their own choice. They were sent into exile from their native homes in Russia, some for crimes and others for political offenses. They are scattered through the districts of Verchojansk, Kolymsk and Yakutsk, the most northern parts of Siberia inhabited by the white race. It is winter in these districts for nine months in the year, and we have little idea of the severity of the long winter season and the misery it brings upon the poverty-stricken Russian peasants and the Yakuts.

In the district of Verchojansk is situated the pole of greatest cold in the northern hemisphere; in other words, the records of extreme cold show a little lower temperature than has ever been observed by arctic explorers.

And yet in the brief summer season the Russians and Yakuts ripen a few vegetables and cut a little hay for the miserable cattle that are kept in that far-away land. The mining industry is not important, and about the only industry that keeps white men there is the collection of skins and furs and the trade with the natives who live nearer the Arctic ocean and exchange a good many skins for European commodities. The poor white residents and Yakuts also engage in fishing.

In the best of years they earn but a scanty subsistence, but their misery is great indeed when their meager crops fail. Then starvation stares them in the face. At such times the Yakuts often beg from door to door in the little towns or take to robbery. At such times also the father of the family will sell his children to the Russian peasants, his nearest white neighbors, if he has any to sell. The price is a mere pittance, varying between \$2 and \$25.

The well-to-do Russians of the official or merchant class are the final purchasers of the children. They pay the middlemen who buy the children from the Yakut families about one-third more than the Yakuts received for them. The children are purchased to be servants.

Such sales are against the law and are made secretly. When the children reach their majority they are free. They can no longer be held in restraint; nevertheless, they are slaves in their younger years.

It is not to be wondered that the Yakut population hate the whites, who dominate over them. They know that most of the white population are convicts sent out of their country for their country's good, and they see in the better class of Russians only slaveholding officials and merchants.

Easy Enough. Mrs. Crimmonbeak—There is one thing about my husband I never could understand.

Mrs. Yeast—And what's that? "Why, when he comes home late he can't find the keyhole; but when he gets inside, from the noise he makes, he seems to find everything in the room."—Yonkers Statesman.

Porto Rico Mayors. Mayors of the different towns in Porto Rico at present have exclusive jurisdiction in police court cases, whether or not they know a word of law, and from their decisions there is no appeal.—Chicago Chronicle.

CLIFF DWELLERS IN CHINA.

A Strange Settlement in Mongolia, Like a Colony of Sand Swallows.

Prof. G. Frederick White, of Oberlin, who started on a tour around the world several months ago, reached China just before the Boxers' outbreak had assumed dangerous proportions, and at once made an excursion into Mongolia, returning later to Teiutsin. From there, on June 2, he sent an account of a singular and interesting village of Catholic cliff dwellers which he visited in Mongolia, says the Springfield Republican. It is quite probable that the native Christians he describes have since been massacred. Prof. White prefaces the description of the village with a few brief paragraphs about the curious nature of the territory in which it is situated.

"The eastern border of Mongolia and the northeastern part of China are largely covered with loess (loess), one of the most interesting and puzzling of all the geological deposits. Its German name comes from the valley of the Rhine, where loess is found in considerable quantities. The inhabitants of the Mississippi and Missouri valleys of the United States are familiar with the deposit in the bluffs at Vicksburg, Kansas City, Omaha and Sioux City. During the siege of Vicksburg the people took refuge in the spacious rooms dug out in the deposit at a considerable depth below the surface. At numerous places along the Missouri river it stands in perpendicular exposures more than a hundred feet high, and city streets are cut through its long, perpendicular sides, which stand like a wall for many miles. When a section breaks off from the cliff it always leaves a perpendicular face.

"Yet the deposit is so soft that its surface can be readily cultivated and it can be handled with a shovel at any depth. The material principally consists of extremely fine sand, with a little lime intimately mixed with it. It is so porous that the rain which falls upon the surface passes entirely through the deposit, preventing the formation of springs of water until an impervious stratum is reached underneath it all. It endures drought better than any other soil.

"The most extensive development of the loess anywhere in the world is in Mongolia in an elevated region from 3,000 to 5,400 feet above the sea, but it has been eroded by water during long geological ages into a very uneven surface, with numerous narrow valleys from 1,000 feet to 3,000 feet deep, with innumerable tributary gullies coming down the sides of the intervening ridges. Many isolated peaks also rise to an absolute height of from 6,000 feet to 7,000 feet above sea level. Into this rugged region has drifted during a recent epoch an immense amount of fine dust which constitutes the loess. That it has been blown in by the winds is evident from the positions in which it lies. It appears almost exactly like a series of immense snowdrifts that have accumulated behind the barriers which have caused lulls in the wind, permitting the suspended particles to settle in protected places, while it has been swept bare from the exposed positions.

"These deposits of loess are specially valuable because of their fertility. But in northern China it is of especial interest in furnishing cheap, comfortable and salubrious dwelling places for multitudes of people. In a recent excursion through the eastern part of Mongolia, outside the great Chinese wall, in the vicinity of the famous city of Kolgan, I saw a large number of such villages excavated in the drifts of loess hanging on the sides of the mountains. In walking over the grassed surface it was no uncommon thing to stumble against a chimney protruding from a habitation below. From a distance the side of the hill looked like an exposed bank pierced with innumerable swallow's nests. The interior of the houses are clean and comfortable. When the walls have been moistened they have a hard finish which does not crumble off. The rooms are uniformly dry and are warm in winter and cool in summer. On the sloping back of the hill several stories of such houses are often seen above and slightly back of each other, the roof of one being the first dooryard of the house above it."

Interest Laws of China. The interest laws of China, with which the operations of banking are intimately connected, date from the year 1250 of our era. The enormous rate of interest is curiously defended by several writers. It results, they say, in securing economy, in order that the borrower may repay the loan, in producing greater industry, in deterring persons from borrowing, in reducing the number of renters of land, thus increasing the number of land owners, and in inducing circumspection in regard to new enterprises. It is further stated by men of business that this 30 per cent. is also a maximum founded on the probability that the oscillations in the price of silver will never exceed that sum. It must be understood also that the ordinary rate of interest rarely exceeds 20 or 22 per cent., and that money may be had as low as 12 per cent., though the rate sometimes exceeds even 30 per cent.—Forum.

A Deadly Weapon. In Guatemala the favorite weapon of the native bandits and desperadoes is a sawed-off muzzle-loading shotgun of the blunderbuss pattern, and when they run short of buckshot they ally out to the railroad and steal a few dozen seals, which are simply disks of soft lead about the size of quarters. Pounded into rough balls, they make projectiles by the side of which a dum-dum is an angel of mercy, and when one of their blunderbusses goes off it generally kills everything in sight except the man directly behind it.—N. Y. Herald.

WHAT IS A GENERATION?

The Question is Not Altogether as Easy to Answer as It May Seem.

One of the commonplaces of genealogy has been that a generation is 33 years; that is, that the difference between the average date of birth of one generation and the average date of birth of the next following is, on the whole, 33 years. At first sight it would seem a simple matter to verify, taking the histories of royal and princely houses as data; but difficulties of various kinds arise. For instance, the line from William the Conqueror to Queen Victoria may be divided into 25 or 27 periods according as we follow one or another line of ancestors; and the resulting inter-generation period becomes 31.7-10 or 29.3-10 years in the two cases. Moreover, it is at least possible that the period is different for different races and for different stocks. The statistics for Jews and for Mohammedans, for example, would probably yield very different results; and the period for the Jews in Moorish Spain would, in all likelihood, be other than that for the Jews in modern Russia.

The length of the generation should, then, be studied in each group of people separately. The early New England settlers were homogeneous in stock and in many families there are seven or eight generations in which the marriages have been, almost without exception, between descendants of the original settlers. Mr. Charles H. Chandler, of Ripon, Wis., has recently, says the New York Sun, studied the statistics for six New England families and printed his results in tabular form. For one such family his table is as follows:

Generation	No. of Ancestors in each Generation	Average year of birth of each generation	Actual length of generation
I	1	1637	40 years
II	2	1677	40 years
III	4	1717	40 years
IV	8	1757	40 years
V	16	1797	40 years
VI	32	1837	40 years
VII	64	1877	40 years
VIII	128	1917	40 years

It is fairly clear that the statistics for the eighth generation given in the last line of the table are not complete. If the eight generations are all included it follows that the first ancestor, who was born in 1637, had 1,268 descendants, and that the average length of a generation in this family was 33.3-10 years—exactly a third of a century. If the last line is omitted, the length of a generation results as 34 1/2 years.

The statistics for other families have been studied in a similar fashion, and the conclusion from all of them is that the more nearly complete the record of the births in each generation is, and the greater the number of generations included in the examinations may be, the greater is the approximation to an average period of 33 years. For New England stock, then, between the first settlement of the country and the present time, we may safely assume three generations to each century. For other stocks, in other countries, under other conditions, special investigations must be made.

CONVENT LANTERNS.

An Old Fad with Modern Improvements—An Electrical Display.

In the old days a favorite fad for travelers in ancient lands was the collection of lanterns. Those from ruined convents, decayed mosques and poverty-stricken shrines were prime favorites. The fad is not entirely dead, but the supply has run so short that how enterprising firms in Birmingham, England, and in New York turn out large numbers of excellent imitations, says the Post. The new ones are made by hand, and, so far as strength and durability are concerned, are superior to the ancient designs, which were hand made, but the latter in many instances were ornamented with inlaid work, as well as with carving and twisting of the most artistic type. The machine-made goods can never reproduce these latter characteristics so well as to deceive an expert. The material of the lanterns varies from fine woods and glass to iron, steel, brass, bronze, copper, pewter, and even silver. The simplest forms are cylindrical which are perforated with numerous holes, so as to resemble the clumsy sieve. Then come globes, cubes, octahedra, hexagonal solids, ovoids, and more complex solid forms. The prettiest of all are the mosque lanterns. Many of them are of bronze inlaid with silver, pierced with little windows, and these closed in turn with white or colored glass. With a lighted candle inside they look like a mass of jewels in a dark room. A wealthy man on Brooklyn Heights, who has traveled a great deal, has one of his rooms illuminated by lanterns of this type. They range in size from small affairs, four inches in diameter to stately lamps a foot in diameter and two feet high. In place of candles inside he employs electric lights, one bulb to the smaller lanterns and three, four and a dozen to the larger ones. When the current is turned on the splendor of the effect is almost startling. The colors of the glass have been deepened and made richer by the years, and the radiance they give may be compared to that from a great orb in a Gothic cathedral.

Time is a file that wears but makes no noise.—Chicago Daily News.