Buckles have transferred themselves for the moment from the front to the back of the waistband. Here they are mostly of cut steel and of the elongated square shape, if the Hibernicism may be permitted. Between our gold and jeweled belts, our heart shaped lockets, our neck or muff or lorgnette chains, as the case may be, also strung with pearls and precious things, it cannot be said that the days of jewelry are over; while, apropos also of pearls, a gem setter of note confided recently that pear-shaped gems of that ilk, which for so many years were a hopeless drug in the market, are now once more in much demand, owing to the recently revived custom among smart women of wearing earrings. It is said that the Duchess of York is responsible for this emphatically becoming fashion, which has been practically "out" since the '50s.

* * *

The princess gown, much improved by its handsome bodice decorations and picturesque sleeve and shoulder effects, is certainly gaining favor. The skirt portions also show new forms, being slashed at the sides, finished with long peplum ends, and trimmed half way up the length of the skirt, with narrow braids, frills or ruches; or the lower edge of the skirt is cut in tabs or deep Vandykes, that are velvet-bound or otherwise finished. These gowns are capable of infinite variety, and some of the most novel and charming evening styles are cut half-low in the neck, laced at the back, and slashed on the front and side breadths. Each opening is then trimmed with lace pleatings or gathered velvet-edged chiffon grills. The bodice is lavishly decorated on the front and over the shoulders. The princesse form appears also in many of the models for new French bridal toilets.

* * *

Notwithstanding the general idea that the bolero jacket and all its kin had passed from favor with such artists as Paquin, Pasquier, Mayer, Pelletier, Vidal, etc., we still see any number of the new French costumes with these and many other little short-jacket fronts, put on above softly folded surplice vests, or full blouse fronts of net, or other diaphanous material draped over satin. They are likewise used on French polonaises and princesse dresses that fasten at the back. These little jackets, usually rounded in shape, curve over the chest, and come but a very few inches under the arms, leaving an unbroken view of the waistline and hips, about which the polonaise is fitted with great perfection. The entire front effect, to make a complete success, is about as taxing a piece of manipulation as the dressmaker has to perform, and its achievement is quite beyond the powers of an amateur.

* * *

A bewildering variety of ornaments for the hair are presented this season, and each importing or fancy dry goods house appears to exhibit a line of specialties exclusively its own. Novel shapes in combs, tiaras, pins, unique-looking brooches, etc., studded with semi-precious stones, are charming for dress occasions. Very fine cut-steel is used for the same purpose, and the beautiful hair ornaments in tortoise-shell, amber, or gold, set with brilliants, or enriched with solid silver carvings and filigree work, baffle description. The Greek, Psyche, Merode, Japanese and Pompadour coiffures each calls for ornaments of a different style and character, just as the coif d'Espagne requires the high Spanish comb, and the more trying Greek style, with tresses laid in straight severity, demand the fillet of pearls or slender bands of gold. The ornaments for the stately Pompadour coiffure are the most brilliant and elaborate. Pretty little empire bowknots of gold or silver, densely studded with Irish diamonds, are plentifully used with the rolled and waved Marie Antoinette coiffure, the hair being arranged at the back, near the top of the head, in one large showy bowknot. All of these fancy decorations are satisfactory duplicates of hair and neck ornaments made of genuine precious stones, suitable only for very elegant occasions and to be worn only by persons of great wealth, many of the tiny aigrettes, coronets, necklaces, gem-set lorgnette-chains and slender bangle bracelets being costly and elaborate enough for the wear of women of royalty.

* * *

Hats and bonnets are marvelous to behold, so varied are their forms and colors, but then it must be remembered that there are faces of all ages to suit, and also they must be in keeping with the costume and occasion. For morning wear toques and the chapeau marquis are used; for evening and theaters a very small dressy capote, with tulle, feathers and flowers. Dress hats are not very large, the brims are flat and sometimes raised with tufts or half wreaths of flowers, or bouillonnes of velvet. For driving or visiting dove gray felt is much in vogue and looks well trimmed with sable and a little head of sable on one side toward the back.

* * *

Cloth in ivory or cream white, geranium red, pale old rose, blue and fawn color, is used for yokes in cloth gowns and when a lighter material is preferred, tucked shot taffeta is considered very smart. Some of the cloth yokes are left plain, others are overlaid with an entire second yoke of openwork, soutache braidwork, en applique. On evening toilets, nets, soft liberty satins, silk, muslin, chiffon and crepe de chine are variously used for yokes or guimpes and very often the sash or girdle and short sleeve puffs are formed of a corresponding material.

* * *

Rough patterned fabrics never look as well made up in princesse style, even on slender figures, as the smoother, lighter textiles, like drap d'ete and double faced cashmere, for example, and also the different silks and satins. Very beautiful "dress" models for the coming season are made of elegant qualities of corded silk. A tailor made princesse dress of pale reseda green repped silk, with a very lustrous surface, is finished at the foot of the demi-trained skirt with five tiny lapping frills of the silk. At each side of the front breadth the skirt is slashed, introducing a fan pleated panel of varicolored Oriental brocade. The little rounded jacket fronts are lined with the patterned satin and trimmed with Persian bead passementerie, whose brilliant colorings repeat those in the brocade. The collar is lined and trimmed to match, as are the slashed cuffs of the coat sleeves, which are finished at the top with small puffs of the brocade. A row of this elegant trimming decorates each side of slashed fronts of the skirt.

* * *

Some of the most stylish coats of the season are made of cloth, repped silk, and fur. Many of these, in the various new shades of winter-sky gray and the much paler "frost" tints, are as a rule more becoming than the long familiar swallow, nickel, aluminium, or sand gray dyes. Following Russian effects, some of the models fasten at the left side, and the skirt portion laps also, and is frequently fastened just below the waist with a fancy metal or silk cord ornament; all are finished in tailor style, and have a large flaring collar and small mutton leg sleeves. The most fashionable princesse gowns are a combination of blouse and princesse. One, for example, is of rich Russian blue broadcloth, the back closely fitted and beautifully hung. At each side of the front are long, closely adjusted side forms, some of which terminate in peplum ends that are silk lined, braid trimmed and shaped with oval ends. Just in the center of the bodice portion it is slightly bloused. This full piece is separate like a plastron, and is set upon the front breadth and framed with narrow fur, with the finish at the waist of a handsome belt coming from under the arms, and covering the lower plain edges of the blouse. The drooping folds of the cloth partly conceal the belt.

* * *

Rose-colored silk or satin waists are very fashionably worn this winter with skirts of black velvet, brocade or satin, and occasionally they are seen with skirts of dark corded silk. These waists are, as a rule, very much trimmed with handsome lace, but the garniture is often of velvet matching the skirt, with the rich addition of fur bands and beaded passementerie.

* * *

Sashes remain in favor. The soft-falling chiffon scarf, with long ends edged with pleated frilling or lace, are largely worn on very smart occasions. On very slender forms these are carried twice around the waist, and exceedingly pretty they look when well arranged and worn with airy or very light silk gowns. Ribbon sashes are worn in various widths. From three inches to ten or twelve describes the limit each way. The excessive wide styles once popular are not used this winter, and the very broadest sashes are of transparent texture. A sash that is not too wide, and that falls to the skirt hem, is, as a rule, far more becoming to the wearer than the one that is half-length. Of course a very wide sash cannot be tied at the side. An innovation that has little to recommend it is a half-length ribbon sash tied in this position.

* * *

She may not have appeared an object of wondrous grace and beauty, but she was certainly one to be heartily envied on that day by numberless women, who came and went at intervals through the massive entrance doors of the hotel, grasping frantically at wind-tossed umbrellas and street-sweeping skirts. It was also noticed that not a woman of the rainy-day-costume party had the inevitable pocketbook in evidence, to possibly or probably lose it or cumber her hands; and likewise that the handsome fur muffs worn were in every instance suspended from the neck by either a chain or ribbon. In every way they were a very interesting object lesson to every other less appropriately equipped woman present.

* * *

Dressmakers are still recommending the very handsome peau de soie silks to those who do not fancy the solid garish luster of satin. Peau de soie has rich half-lights on its surface, and the silk is twilled, making it more durable than satin or many kinds of silk. These beautiful fabrics come in many lovely tints in monochrome, in novel chameleon effects, in flowered designs, and also in many fancy devices appropriate for bodice accessories.

* * *

Straps of braid terminate on many costumes with the addition of tiny buckles or fancy ribbons, and tailor vests fasten with the latter trimming. The necessary button is small, but the one for ornament only is rather large. In these, as in gimps and buckles, cut-steel, jet and jeweled designs outnumber all others.

* * *

The linings of all dressy gowns form a considerable addition to the regular cost of the costume; but they undeniably add greatly to the comfort and appearance of the wearer, and it is better to own one silk-lined tailor costume than half a dozen gowns indifferently made. If only one portion of the dress can be silk-lined let that be the bodice and sleeves. For fifty or sixty cents, however, a very good silk lining can now be purchased.

* * *

A very smart morning gown of gray satin cloth was trimmed with rows of narrowest silk braid in the same tint, and a gray silk guipure mounted on white satin; the little round-waisted bodice was closely braided with the narrow braid, the insertions of guipure and satin forming the yoke over the shoulders, and the vest of white satin was veiled with yellow lace.

* * *

A black velvet jacket was embroidered all over in black and white silk. The back was close fitting, with a short but not full basque. The front was like a close fitting waistcoat to the waist, and over this came two panels of velvet, joining the basques at the sides, but flowing free in front. The sleeves close, with a small bouffant at the top.

* * *

Yokes and guimpes of every shape, color and fabric are in fashion. Besides being a very dressy addition to the toilet, they are most useful in transforming a half-low, rounding or Pompadour bodice into one appropriate for any daytime dress occasion.

* * *

Many of the silk petticoats this season are lined with a fine thin quality of outing cloth or albatross, to make them comfortable for cold-weather wear.

* * *

Large lace ties are in vogue, both on day and evening toilets, and these are extremely becoming to women of every age and type.

NOT A NEW SCHEME.

Andree Not the First to Take Pigeons to the Pole.

Writers for the contemporary press who have recently treated of Andree's essay to reach the North Pole in a balloon appear to have forgotten—if indeed, they ever knew—that carrier pigeons have previously been taken to the Arctic regions by other explorers, that in one instance it is believed a bird made its way south to its old home in Scotland.

When Sir John Ross set out in the Felix in search of Sir John Franklin's expedition, in 1850, he took with him four homing pigeons belonging to a woman in Ayrshire, intending to liberate two of them when the state of the ice rendered it necessary to lay up the vessel for the winter, and the other two when he discovered the missing explorer, if he should be so fortunate.

A pigeon made its appearance at the dote cote in Ayrshire on October 13th, which the woman recognized by marks and circumstances that left no doubt in her mind of it being one of the younger pair presented by her to Sir John. It carried no billet, but there were indications, in the loss of feathers on the breast, of one having been torn from under the wing. Though it is known that the speed of pigeons is equal to 100 miles an hour, the distance from Melville Island to Aryshire, being in a direct line about 2,400 miles, is so great that evidence of the bird having been sent off as early as October 10th was required before it could be believed that no mistake was made in the identification of the individual which came to the cote.

It was afterward ascertained that Sir John Ross dispatched the younger pair on October 6 and 7, 1850, in a basket suspended from a balloon during a west-northwest gale. By a contrivance of a slow match the birds were to be liberated at the end of twenty-four hours. The reader can form his own opinion as to the identity of the pigeon in question, but at the time it was fully believed that the bird was one of the two sent off from the expedition in Melville Bay.

The expedition fitted out by Lady Franklin in 1851, which sailed in the the Prince Albert, under the command William Kennedy, took a number of homing pigeons. It reached Upernavak on June 10th, and, after taking on board some Esquimau dogs, set out to explore the shores of Prince Regent's Inlet. The much-dreaded "middle ice" was reached soon after leaving, and four days were spent in passing through it to the western side of the bay, during which time the men were constantly employed in sailing, boring, pushing, warping, not infrequently exposed to the perilous "nips," which are sometimes productive of dire consequences. At this point in the voyage it was deemed advisable to test the powers of the pigeons, but the poor birds refused to take the long flight to England, and resolutely persisted in returning to the ship again and again after a short survey of the icy region in which they were let loose.—Boston Herald.

Indian Antipathy to Fish.

At the meeting in Baltimore of the American Folk-Lore Society Dr. Washington Matthews of Washington, D. C., read a paper on "Icthyophobia," which he described as an antipathy to fish. This aversion is especially strong in the Navajo, Apache and other Indian tribes of the far Southwest, who will not eat fish nor have anything to do with articles made in the shape of fish. This "taboo" with the Navajos extends to all things connected with water. A probable reason why no more children of these tribes are sent East to be educated, Dr. Matthews thought, was a fear that they might be required to overcome this cherished "taboo" superstition, which is as firmly rooted as any religion.

A legend to account for this fish "taboo" was given. There was a time when food was scarce and the mountain Indians had a big pow-wow with the river Indians. The result was that the river Indians agreed to kill no deer, but live entirely on fish, and the mountain Indians agreed to eat no fish, but live entirely upon deer. This made food plenty for both.

In the discussion of the paper it was stated that Zuna Indians will not eat fish because savage tribes in desert lands regard water as sacred because of its scarcity, and this reverence extends to animal life in water. Several members thought, perhaps, this idea conveyed the true reason for the fish "taboo."—Baltimore Sun.

Hanson, the engineer of the excursion train that was wrecked near Copenhagen last summer, having been held responsible for the disaster, has been sentenced to four months' imprisonment and to a fine of 44,875 crowns, or $12,026 50.

IN RELIGION'S REALM.

EXPRESSIONS FROM VARIOUS RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS.

The Religious Thought of the Day as Expressed in the Sectarian Press.

Reviewing church progress during the last year, the "Church Standard" (P. E.) of Philadelphia remarks: "The free-church system—the only system that can ever gather in and hold our lost communicants—seems to be growing more rapidly than ever. The Holy Communion is steadily advancing to that supreme place in public worship to which it is entitled, and is valued more than ever as the greatest opportunity of worship. The service of the sanctuary is receiving more and more of the devout care which it ought to have as a direct offering to Almighty God. Church clubs are springing up everywhere, and everywhere drawing churchmen together. The intolerance of party spirt is passing away, and men of all schools are learning to value the catholic inclusiveness of the church and the large liberty of thought and practice which she allows her ministers and members and expects them to respect in each other. Never before in her history has the church had a nobler opportunity than now. The old prejudices against her have passed away. She is honored and esteemed where she was once suspected and contumed. Her influence is felt where her authority is not accepted. It is safe to say that she is even now exerting a power among her neighbors of other Christian names out of all proportion to her own numbers. She is recognized, not always willingly, as perhaps the chief conservative influence in the Protestant Christianity of the land. If she shall be true to herself and to the work assigned her by her Divine Head, no man can foretell the extent or the blessedness of the work she may yet be called to do for God and man in the coming years."

* * *

"In the 'Catholic World' for December is a paper by the Rev. Luke Rivington on the effect of the papal condemnation of Anglican Orders," says the "Living Church" (P. E.) of Chicago. "The paper is a confession of failure, with explanations — explanations which, it need not be said, are not complimentary to the clergy of the Church of England, even to Father Rivington's former friends, some of whom he mentions by name. The main point is the full admission that the effect of the Bull has been to unify the sentiment of churchmen, and that it has brought about a better feeling between parties than has been known for many a year. There is, he admits, 'a tremendous rally round' the Church of England, though he imagines it is only for a moment. He discovers, also, in quarters where there was formerly some reluctance to speak severely, an increased firmness of tone and a new definiteness of hostility in dealing with Rome. There is, in fact, no longer any reason why men should shrink from speaking boldly, who hesitated to do so while it might interpose unnecessary obstacles in the way of the wished-for unity of Christendom. But any prospect in that direction has been closed indefinitely by the action of the Pope himself. It is well that the Roman controversialists should see, as Father Rivington plainly does, that the results of the famous Bull have been quite different from those so confidently predicted at the time of its publication. The disintegration of the church has not set in; on the contrary, there is in it a rapidly growing sense of strength and confidence for which churchmen may well be thankful."

* * *

Concerning reported expectations on the part of the Papal See of a revival of Catholicism in England, the Christian Register (Unit.) of Boston says: 'It may come; but then, on the other hand, it may not. The Anglo-Saxon race, so called, may be Catholic once. It will hardly become so a second time. There is something in the Latin races which is favorable to the rule of Rome. But in Great Britain the spirit of liberty is strengthening. Free thought is abroad, and more likely than a widespread Catholic revival is a latitudinarian deluge, which will make even the established Church of England shake on its foundations. The defeat of the Clerical party in London is an omen which does not suggest a tendency towards Rome. If, however, a strong liberal movement should threaten the permanence of the English Church, it is probable that many would run for shelter to the 'mother church,' thinking that refuge safer than the wilds of nonconformity and dissent."

* * *

"May a minister belong to two denominations at once?" asks the New York "Outlook." "Why not? The question is prompted by the report in the 'Herald of Gospel and Liberty' that two ministers of the Christian denomination have been dropped from the roll 'by a very heavy vote on account of belonging to the Congregationalist body.' This seems questionable while negotiations are in hopeful progress for a union of those two denominations. Custom and precedent must render a reason. Are our church denominations competitive? Then there is no belonging to more than one at a time. Are they rather co-operative? Then why not belong to more than one? Indeed, why belong to one rather than another? The best reason for this is that through some one denomination one, being what he is, can best promote Christian interests. The denomination is simply a means to that end. So viewing it, one may ask, Why be restricted to a single means? Of course objection arises in the interest of maintaining certain forms of doctrine or of order about which denominations are organized. But why should not 'heralds of Gospel liberty' be somewhat free in such matters—'go in and go out and find pasture,' just as some ministers hald the doctor's degree from more than one college?"

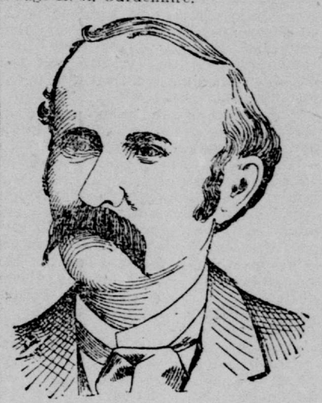
* * *

"All ceremonies which have a meaning are justified, if the meaning is worth expressing," says the "Christian Register" (Unitarian) of Boston. "Our daily conduct in relations with our fellows is almost wholly ceremonial. When two men meet they at once declare their intentions regarding one another by the attitudes they take, the motions they make, by the movements of their features and the forms of speech they use. If all civilized men had agreed that putting one hand behind his back would be a symbol of welcome, it would then be a sign of hostility to thrust one's hand forward. Naturally, the withdrawal of the hand would seem to be expressive of an intention not to strike, and so might have become the sign of friendship. Custom has made the opposite signal a token of good will. There is scarcely a movement of features or limbs, or a form of words, which does not have some such conventional interpretation. He, therefore, who would be understood will use such signs of purpose after the manner of those who designed them, and who principally use them.

BENTON McMILLAN.

Candidate for Senator From the State of Tennessee.

There is a stubborn fight on in Tennessee which favors the selection of Benton McMillan as United States Senator. He has a record in Congress of which any State might be proud. He was born in Kentucky, September 11, 1845, was educated at Philomath Academy, Tennessee, and at Kentucky University. He left that institution in 1868 and studied law with his uncle, Judge E. L. Gardenhire.



His first political service was as a member of the State Legislature in 1874. He was an elector on the Tilden-Hendricks ticket in 1876, and was subsequently commissioned Circuit Judge. He was nominated for Congress in 1878, and has been elected to that body ten times. He has held the position of Speaker of the House twice and has been appointed to that honor on many occasions. He had long service on the Committee on Ways and Means and Rules. He has had active part in all national campaigns and is an interesting, convincing speaker.

WHEN A WOMAN ARGUES.

There Were Reasons Why the Cook Should Stay.

She was the picture of resignation when they sat down to dinner, but she didn't say anything. She waited for him to open the conversation. He opened it.

"Great mackerel!" he exclaimed. "What's become of the legs of these chickens?"

She inclined her head slightly in the direction of the door that led to the kitchen in which that terrible Swede presided.

"You surely don't mean to say that she ate them?" he said inquiringly.

"No," replied the meek and lowly housewife, with a sigh. "They had to be boiled, you know, as a sort of preliminary in preparing them for the table this way, and I always cut off the legs and put them in the kettle separately. Otherwise they are apt to stick up out of the water. So when I told her to boil them, I incidentally suggested that she first cut off the legs."

"And she——"

"She cut them off and threw them away." There was silence for about ten minutes, and then he asked with great earnestness:

"How long do you think we will be able to stand this?"

"I don't know," she replied. "It isn't our inconvenience that is worrying me, anyway."

"What is it?" he demanded.

"I'm afraid Brown's Swede coachman is preparing to strike. You know I have him come up here three times a day and translate my orders for breakfast, luncheon and dinner to our Swede cook, because he understands English and she doesn't, and he is beginning to think that the occasional quarter I give him isn't enough. He wants a salary."

"A salary! Tell him to——"

"Do you realize," she interrupted, "that if he should suddenly take it into his head not to come up here some morning we'd have to go without breakfast? Why, only yesterday I had to delay luncheon nearly an hour because Mrs. Brown kept her carriage out until almost 2 o'clock."

"Then discharge the girl."

"That wouldn't be fair, John. She's trying to do the best she can, and you know Swedes are said to be very quick at picking up a language."

He didn't say anything. There's nothing to be said when a woman argues on both sides of a household question.

The General's Feast.

Here is a true enough dog story. Among Tom Ford's chums were several incorrigible foragers. When General Lovell H. Rousseau, the gallant Kentuckian, commanded the division he had strict orders against foraging. One day he saw Ford's chums carrying a dressed sheep to camp. An aide was directed to arrest the foragers and march them to his side. "You have been stealing sheep," said the General.

"We killed this one in self-defense," said a young butcher. "He was about to collide with us."

"Nonsense! Take that mutton to my headquarters and go to your camp," snapped the General.

One of the crowd of foragers hung about Rousseau's cook tent that night long enough to learn that their mutton was to go to the General's mess. The next day the same batch of foragers were again caught with a large, fat sheep, well dressed. This time the General scolded them savagely and threatened them with dire trouble if they killed another sheep. As on the previous occasion the mutton was sent to the General's mess and eaten by him and his staff. A few day's later, when Rousseau and some friends rode through camp the men in Ford's company barked like so many Newfoundland dogs. This nettled the Kentuckian, and he demanded of the Captain to know what it meant.

"I can't tell you, General."

"Then call out one of your men and let me question him."

One of the foragers was trotted out.

"What do you mean by barking as I came into this camp? Tell me the truth."

"Well, General, you remember that last sheep you had taken from us and sent to your mess, and that you and the staff feasted on, don't you?"

"Yes, but what has that to do with this infernal bow-wowing?"

"Everything, General; that wasn't a sheep at all; it was a Newfoundland dog."—Chicago Times-Herald.

A woman holding her skirts out of the mud and carrying an umbrella has not very much time for flirting.

It is a question whether men gain anything by exchanging their bachelor quarters for better halves.

FORMS OF FEAR.

SOME ARE DEGRADING, OTHERS ARE ENNOBLING.

Interesting and Lucid Discussion of the Psychology of Fear.

About two thousand people have lately made returns of confessing their own private fears, and these have been made the basis of a very careful and elaborate study which shows some surprising and also very practical results. Of all the over two hundred objects feared, insects, mice and reptiles lead, then come thunder, darkness, ghosts, high winds, fire, water, domestic animals, with death and disease quite low in the scale. This shows that if Aristotle's definition of education is correct—namely, "learning to fear those objects most worthy of fear"—people are not yet well educated; for surely insects and mice are less worthy of fear than disease. Imaginary horror of being buried alive, of the end of the world, hights, cloud forms, ghosts, robbers, etc., show a list of phobias which is truly amazing.

One curious feature is that the very strongest fears are never told even to the most intimate friends. They make us nervous and irritable, and yet they are never mentioned even to parents. This is particularly unfortunate, because many of them are most absurd and ridiculous, and could be easily removed.

Another curious fact is that girls enumerate about three times as many fears as boys; the latter are most timid from eleven to fifteen; the former from fifteen to eighteen. Again, everybody has certain chronic fears, even those who disclaim them. All, at least, fear disgrace, calamity, God or dishonor, and many otherwise perfectly normal people have very peculiar fears that are distinctly morbid.

Excessive fear is degrading, restricts freedom of action, modifies careers and some children, especially if they are feeble, are a prey to scores of terrors that keep them from going into the dark, being alone, riding, swimming and perhaps even going out of doors.

Some fear is, of course, necessary, for it may be defined as anticipatory pain. Again, we are most interested in objects that we are just ceasing to fear; so that one object of education should be, not to eliminate fear, but to rightly direct it and gauge its intensity and use its tonic. Higher forms of fear are almost always substituted for the lower, and if man were without fear he would not only fail to survive, but would lost a wealth of motive power. Once more, we fear God better because we have feared thunder. Fear is supplanted by reverence, and, as love of natural objects gradually casts out fear, education progresses. Excessive timidity in children is such a calamity that the old English service book has a prayer "that our children be not poltroons."

Fear has its own symptoms so sharply marked that Brown-Sequard thought he could inoculate its microbe. It is dominant in delirium tremens, and has its art as in Poe, Hoffman and Wiertz. The timid do not resist disease, and fear seems to invite it. Some experts in nervous diseases always question their patients as to their fears. Fear makes people selfish as few other things do.

Let us glance at a few of the most widespread of the excessive fears.

Fear of high places and falling—Many fear to look down high places, dread elevators, cannot climb, dread to sleep in high rooms in hotels, fear stairs, cannot sit in the front row of galleries. Some cannot climb hills or even see them without nausea; while the thought of cracks in a high floor, driving near banks or by mountain roads or gorges, of the very idea of flying, habitually causes nausea and perhaps dizziness. These panics may haunt the dreams of people otherwise normal.

Fear of losing points of compass—Some suffer constant fear of losing sense of direction, dread angles or corners, think they are always in danger of being lost, sweat and feel faint if they cannot instantly locate their doors and windows on waking suddenly; are haunted in strange and even familiar places with the dread of losing their way, forgetting right and left, and are always confused and turned round.

Fear of closeness—Some can never have their doors shut or locked, cannot endure a close carriage, fear ravines and all narrow places, are even afraid lest heavy fogs should settle down and choke them. The thought of snakes suggests smothering, and even hot weather may do the same. Such people often provide tubes in their coffins or want tools to dig out buried with them. They may even dread odors or cannot bear to wear a ring. Some of these fears are common in people with defective lungs, or especially defective hearts.

Fear of water—This is almost universal at some stage of childhood. It is not the dread of being washed so much as paddling on the beach, hearing the noise of the driving near it, and especially sailing that awakens these fears. Some think that every rain will drown the world, cannot look down upon the water without an uncontrollable impulse to jump in, or are prone to imagine themselves drowning. Strong as this fear is, it is generally overcome by the opposite love of water. The latter is an almost irresistible passion with children, and there is much to suggest that it is an echo of the soul of the earlier and far longer life in the sea, from which all amphibian and later land animals gradually developed. When life on the land was well established, those most fearing water had the advantage at a certain stage over those less timid; but both elements in normal souls struggle up to a harmonious balance, so that we can have all the pleasures of water with all the safety of the land.

Wind is a powerful schoolmaster of the emotions. Some are always excited or depressed, or fancy moaning animals; cannot sleep if it blows hard, imagine themselves at sea, and in extreme cases watch every movement of the boughs a hundred times a day to see if it is increasing. Its noise most often suggests animals, but sometimes machinery, battles, the sea or universal dissolution. The wind is exceedingly real, bringing rain, destruction, change of mood, etc., though no eye ever saw it. Hence it has been a great school of the invisible.

Celestial objects are sources of very common morbid fears. Clouds suggest dragons, the end of the world, faces of dead relatives, God, angels, Bible pictures, signs, etc. Many fear the sun, moon, meteors will fall on them; that the sun will go away, burn up, go out, burst; or dread snow, rain, northern lights, with an intensity that is pathological. The heavens are the chief fields of projection of human fancies.

Fears of fire are very liable to become excessive, especially in boys, for whom it has a strange fascination. Some have spells of lying awake and dreading it; others always make periodic tours of the house, fear their hair will burn, are nervous about draughts in the stove or furnace, or the word "fire" sends a chill through the system. Some are always seeing signs of universal combustion, have a horror of smoke, or associate fire with the great judgment day.

The darkness fears are perhaps the most universal of all, and perhaps too familiar to dwell upon. Children often sleep habitually with the clothes over their heads at night, and some imagine absurd spectral or animal forms that take on great definiteness, while others have dream fears so intense that they fear to go to sleep.

Most fears are diminishing, but the fear of disease is greatly increasing in the world to-day. The universe of fear fits ancient tradition and superstition rather than the world of science. Darkness is now the safest time in the world and the most protected, while animals are no longer dangerous in civilized lands. The weather fears suggest life in caves and tents. But the fears of disease seem ever on the increase, and if the mind can cure diseases which it has made, then there is a good deal of practical truth in faith cures of all kinds.

Infants in many of our returns have a peculiar horror of big eyes and big teeth, and often fur, suggesting how ancient these emotional reverberations are in the soul, recalling the time when animals with big eyes and teeth and shaggy sides were objects of supreme dread. Many curious fears, like those of solitude even for a moment, and those of blushing, are very common. Imaginary persons and animals, noises are sometimes created by the imagination, while others fear that the wood, coal or fuel in the world will be exhausted. Others have a cranky aversion to dust, sweeping, wheels, points, ice, poison, fighting and conflict, raw meat, etc.

The physical symptoms of fear most common are weakness, paralysis, tremor, panting, palpitation, chills, sweating, etc. Dangerous and stunting as it is, it is not hard to cure in most cases. Interest in natural objects, familiarity with them, some knowledge of nature and science, sympathetic treatment generally, substitution of interest and love at every point where fear has been, are problems which have hitherto attracted far too little attention. To fear aright is still a good definition of education, as the soul builds itself larger mansions.—Professor G. Stanley Hall, President of Clark University, in New York Herald.

The most curious use to which paper is to be put is that suggested by the blotting paper towel. It is a new style of bath towel, consisting of a full suit of heavy blotting paper. A person upon stepping out of his morning bath has only to array himself in one of these suits, and in a second he will be dry.

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