

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Oct. 4.—It was learned that the story was current in Constantinople that the Turkish Government had come to the decision not to admit the United States gunboat Bancroft through the Bosphorus, and there fore she will not be able to act as the guardship of the United States Legation in these waters. The Porte, it is added, has also decided not to admit the gunships of Greece and Holland, which countries are proposed to have a ship stationed in the Bosphorus. The United States Government is not known to have presented through its Minister a formal demand for the passage of the Bancroft or any other United States warship through the Straits of Dardanelles. The exact ground upon which the Turkish Government takes its stand in this case is not stated, but it is known in official circles here that Russia has objected to the presence in the Bosphorus of United States, Greek or Dutch gunships. There is no reason to doubt that if Minister Terrell was convinced a great uprising was impending, with prospects of serious disaster to his Legation and the Americans in the city, he would call Admiral Selkirk to his support, and that the United States would approve of his action.

Monday, Oct. 5.—Chairman Babcock, of the Republican Congressional Committee, authorized the following statement to be made by its members: "The Committee has now received detailed reports from nearly all of the Congressional districts, and while there are quite a number of districts that cannot be determined upon at present, owing to various causes, some with two candidates, others where the question of fusion has not been settled, and others where nominations have not been completed, we have sufficient data to warrant us in saying that the Republicans will elect members who are pledged to sound money from 124 districts without any question. These districts, we consider as safely certain, and in addition to them there are about 50 more that can be classed as doubtful, with the probabilities that the majority of them will elect Republicans. This insures at this time a working majority of 32."

Tuesday, Oct. 6.—Samuel Blackwell, Auditor of the Treasury for the Interior Department, has submitted his report on operations for the year ended June 30 last to Secretary Carlisle, showing a gratifying condition of the immense business of the office. The Auditor makes a strong argument in favor of the construction of a suitable building for the keeping of the records and files of the Government. This office receives about 1,000,000 pension vouchers every quarter, aside from the great number upon all other pension settlements of other claims and accounts. He cannot now see how this office can, without additional files-rooms, preserve the records under the law required.

Wednesday, Oct. 7.—Judge Cox dismissed today the bill of the D. M. Ferry Company against the Secretary of Agriculture to restrain him from making contracts for seeds under an act of Congress. The bill was amended to allege that they had \$500,000 invested in their business, and that Congress had no power to make a free distribution of seeds and bulbs, and injure their business. Judge Cox held that he had no power to prohibit a Government official from obeying the plain directions of an act of Congress, and that the Ferry Company had no standing in court to file their bill, as it had no direct interference with their business. The case will be appealed.

Thursday, Oct. 8.—A public testimonial to Miss Clara Barton, head of the Red Cross organization, took place to-night in the form of a reception. The occasion was an unusual one, and from 7 to 9 o'clock a great throng of visitors passed by the headquarters of the Red Cross and congratulated Miss Barton on her safe return, as well as expressing their appreciation of her work in relieving the sufferings of the Armenians. Miss Barton was escorted in receiving by the Secretary, John A. Logan, Mrs. Sara A. Spencer, Miss Ellen Spencer Mussey, Dr. J. B. Hubbard, Field Agent George H. Pullman, Financial Secretary Stephen H. Barton, her husband; Miss Myrtle Barton, her grandniece; Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Wistar, of New York; B. H. Warner, Dr. A. Moses Lesser, Miss Bettina A. Sawyer, Rev. Royal H. Pullman, Charles G. Seal, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Alwater.

Friday, Oct. 9.—The Auditor for the Post-office Department, in his annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, gives the following statement: The total revenue was \$28,929,208, an increase of \$5,516,080 over the previous year. The total expenditures were \$20,928,285, an increase of \$5,856,134 over the previous year. The excess of expenditures over receipts was \$8,127,088. During the past fiscal year 11,791 Postmasters have been received from office by death, resignation or removal. Their accounts have all been fully audited and their total balances, or the amount due from them to the Government, aggregated \$47,723. A large part of this sum will be collected next fall before the close of the present calendar year. The total outstanding indebtedness due the Department at the beginning of the past fiscal year, July 1, 1895, from Postmasters and falling balances and contractors was \$268,070. Of this indebtedness suits have been instituted for \$60,240. There is otherwise in process of collection \$22,351. During the past fiscal year there has been collected of this indebtedness \$192,778.

Saturday, Oct. 10.—At the meeting of the Venezuelan Commission all the members were present. An important publication laid before the Commission was a book entitled "The Boundary Question Between British Guiana and Venezuela," by Rev. Joseph Strickland, S. J., the copy presented to the Commission was in the form of advance sheets secured by Prof. Barr, in London, and forwarded by him from there. There was also laid before the Commission a revised copy of Mr. Storace's summary of the proposed brief for the Venezuelan Government, and a second brief, entitled "The Venezuelan Question," prepared by William L. Scruggs. Advance sheets of a third brief prepared by a Commission of the Venezuelan Government at Caracas were also laid before the Commission. The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 28.

CHAT OF THE CORRIDORS. Second Assistant Postmaster-General Nelson says that there is no objection to bicyclists riding for contracts for Star Route mail. In fact, he is rather in favor of them, because he believes that wheelmen can carry the mail more expeditiously than can be done with horses and wagons.

Gen. Geo. H. Sheridan, who died at the Soldiers' Home, Hampton, Va., was at one time Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. He was for years a notable figure in politics, and ranked high as a Republican orator. Since he retired from office he has been much on the lecture stage, where he attacked Ingersoll's religious theories. Since he became an inmate of Hampton the deceased had suffered from softening of the brain, and this caused his death.

Yen Nien, the Imperial Commercial Ambassador of the Emperor of China, and his suite, are on a business visit to this country. They were entertained here by Yang Yu, the Chinese Minister. The Ambassador has no diplomatic functions, his business being of a purely commercial character, and he is making a trip through the United States and conducting an inquiry particularly into the state of

his countrymen here. Mr. Yen says he is much pleased with what he has seen of the country and its people. He has received most encouraging reports from the Chinese merchants whom he has met. The Ambassador will spend most of his time in San Francisco.

"I am probably the most successful spell-binder in the country," laughingly said a politician last week. "Why, the other day I made a speech in a town where the County Committee had issued a general invitation for everybody to come out and hear me. They didn't say whether I was a Democrat or a Republican, or Populist or what, and they just signed their circular 'The Committee.' Well, I talked for an hour, and the whole town listened. The Democrats said it was the finest speech they had ever heard. So did the Republicans. So did the Populists. And, d'ye know, they have been scarping in that town ever since, trying to get it among themselves which side I was on. That's what I call a registration speech. Keeps everybody talking and fighting and registration day, and they don't forget to get out and get their names down."

Once more the Executive Departments of the Government took on a semblance of active work with the return of their heads after long Summer vacations and the arrival of the President from Gray Gardens. The first of the Administration forces to put in an appearance was Secretary Olney, who showed up at the State Department. Secretary Herbert made his first official appearance at the Navy Department after six weeks in Europe, where he inspected many of the leading naval establishments and the fleet. Cabinet officers and the President will have much to do to occupy their time. Questions have been waiting the consideration of all to be taken up and acted upon. Mr. Olney has Cuba to look after and a personal of Gen. Lee's reports, while Minister Terrell has sent several communications bearing on Armenia. Secretary Herbert has questions of discipline and reports of bureaus to digest, and all the Cabinet, except Mr. Olney, will have to get to work very soon on their annual reports.

Complete returns from the police show that the recent storm destroyed 6,000 trees in Washington. Yet so well shaded is Washington that a stronger coming here after the wreckage is thoroughly covered up will not miss those that are gone. No other city in the world could lose 6,000 trees without being almost swamped with them. The Park Commission will ask for an extra appropriation of \$10,000 next year to replace the trees. The Commission spends \$30,000 a year on trees, but next year wants \$30,000. It has an eight-acre shade-tree nursery near the city, where trees are raised from the seed. There are now 15,000 trees ready for transplanting, or more than double what are needed to replace those destroyed. Since it began work the Park Commission has planted 85,000 trees in the city, and plants from 3,000 to 3,500 every year. Many of these are required for the new additions to the city. If all the trees were in one place, say, along as close as trees usually stand, they would make 1,350 acres of forest.

The Carolina poplar was largely planted at first, because of its rapid growth. But it is a weak thing, and goes to pieces before any wind of strength. More silver maples are planted than any other, because of its quick growth and abundant shade. It is also liable to be mangled by the wind, but in its favor is that it is a clean tree, and free from insects. The sugar maple is a great favorite, but its growth is slower. The American elm is largely planted, but is falling into disfavor on account of the insect attacks. Tulip trees and lindens are highly prized for their beauty and cleanliness. The Norway spruce is the best favorite, but they are liable to grow too large for any very wide streets. The Norway maple is being extensively planted, and is a beautiful tree but a slow grower.

Last week the family of Lieut. Charles E. Hiley, 11th Me., had his remains removed from Rock Creek Cemetery, where they have lain since 1884, to Arlington Cemetery.

Mrs. John G. Bourke, widow of Capt. Bourke, 3d Cav., will spend the Winter in this city with her children, and has taken up her residence at 1315 M street.

Considerable sums of money are sent to Washington by professional gamblers and others during every Presidential campaign to be wagered against gentlemen who want to back up their opinions with cash. There is no more politics in this than there is in horse racing. The betters are after money. During the campaign of 1892 the betting ran generally in the line of \$100 to \$75 that Cleveland would be elected. Last week about \$30,000 was offered at one or two places, on the basis of \$25 to \$100 that McKinley will be elected. Very little of it has been taken so far.

This week will see a wind-up of the distribution of literature by the political Headquarters here. Scattering bunches of it may be sent out after this week, but the amount from them to the end of the campaign will not be as great as the amount heretofore sent out in one day. Orders to printers have about ceased, and the amount of literature at each of the Headquarters has been allowed to dwindle for the last two weeks. It is estimated in some quarters that 7,000,000,000 pieces of literature have been distributed by all the parties from Headquarters since the 1st of last January. This is simply a guess, but the amount is greater than in all previous campaigns for 30 years put together.

RAWLINS POST ANNIVERSARY. John A. Rawlins Post, I. G. A. R., celebrated 20th anniversary last week at Grand Army Hall with a Comrade attended by some of the oldest and best-known veterans here. The organization of the Post was on Oct. 12, 1876. Out of it have grown the 19 G. A. R. Posts now existing here. Among its members have been numbered some of the most prominent men who figured in the war. It has possessed its charter continuously, and furnished in harmony since the day of its organization, quarters since the 1st of last January. It has had from first to last over 1,200 members. It has at present about 200 members, and is noted for its popular Campfires. On the evening of Oct. 12 the Post-room was crowded. The Chairman of the Entertainment Committee kept the merry ball rolling fast, and between the announcements of the program he led the old soldiers to make the best of the occasion, "for very few of us," he said, "will celebrate our 60th anniversary." Quite an elaborate musical and literary program was carried out by the comrades and their friends. Among those who addressed the assembly were Commander John McElroy, Col. John A. Joyce, and Commissioner D. I. Murphy.

THE BISHOP TROUBLE.

The removal of Bishop Keene from the Rectorship of the Catholic University has resulted in a feeling of indignation here among his large numbers of adherents. Within a few days past several of the most prominent of these sums have been cancelled, and it is feared that the University may be seriously affected. The impression is gaining ground that the controversy which will result from the action of the Pope will be bitter and prolonged. It has arrayed the Church into two great parties, the sharply-defined issue between them being the possession of the Catholic University. The two wings from their own seats will now be known as the American and the German party," said a prominent Catholic. "The first is said to be composed of American-born priests and American Catholics. The second has at its head the German-speaking and German-born priests and laity. These are taking opportunity to unite with the French priests and laity, who, sitting on their hands and waiting for the result of the election, have drawn into the controversy."

Cardinal Sui has different views from those of Bishop Keene, and he had the care of the people of Archdiocese of Baltimore. He is opposed to the Bishop. The blow is a terrible one to the Catholic University and to the progressive party of the Church. The party was represented by the University's trustees. Whose name will be sent to Rome for the Rectorship is to be decided this month.

U. V. L. ENGAGEMENT.

The 11th United Encampment of the Union Veteran Legion is being held here. The parade took place on Sunday. The command of the post at Fort Myer was Chief Marshal, and the veterans were escorted by the United States Cavalry stationed across the river, the artillery from Washington Barracks, and the 1st Cavalry from the Barracks with their respective bands. Several of the visiting Encampments were accompanied by bands and drum corps. The District Commissioners will be making their tour of the parade. National Commander James arrived from Cincinnati Monday morning, accompanied by Fred A. Myers, Chief Aid-de-Camp, and in the evening he was entertained at a banquet much gratified at the outlook for the coming Encampment, and had a consultation with Chairman Levi P. Wright, of the Executive Committee, soon after he reached the hotel. The business meetings are being held in the Builders' Exchange Hall. The present officers of the Legion are: National Commander, Geo. C. James, Cincinnati, O.; Senior Vice National Commander, W. H. Morgan, Philadelphia, Pa.; Adj. Gen., Edmond D. Spooner, Cincinnati, O.; Q. M. Gen., W. Foster, New York City; Judge-Advocate-Gen., John F. Slattery, Philadelphia, Pa.; Surg.-Gen., Clarence T. Smith, Philadelphia, Pa.; Ins.-Gen., Daniel Caldwell, Philadelphia, Pa.; Chief Musterling Officer, Charles A. Foster, Wilmington, Del.

ARMY AND NAVY.

First Lieut. James E. Mahoney, Marine Corps, has been sentenced by a court-martial to lose half his pay for one year (\$1,050) and two months, and to be publicly reprimanded for scandalous conduct and insubordination, as mentioned at the New York Navy-yard. Acting Secretary McAdoo has approved the sentence, though holding that it was inadequate. The regiment will be made through the publication of his indorsement to that effect.

Surg.-Gen. Sternberg, in his annual report, states that the health of the Army during the fiscal year 1895 was excellent. At the rates of mortality and disability, as compared with 1,000 of strength, as compared with 6.62 in 1894, and deducting the rate for injuries, the death rate for disease was only 3.55 per 1,000, the lowest on record since records began. Of 727.18 natives of the United States, and 4,000 of the foreign born Germany and Ireland furnished the largest numbers. The foreign-born recruits had the advantage in weight over the native-born.

Secretary Herbert learned many things about naval development while abroad which will be useful to him in the short time he will remain head of the department. He has seen the best arm of the best of the world, and he has seen, in his travels, that American ordnance was better than that abroad; that the armor was far in advance, and that its ships were faster than those of equal displacement and type, and its small arm the best of the world. He has seen, in his travels, that American ordnance was better than that abroad; that the armor was far in advance, and that its ships were faster than those of equal displacement and type, and its small arm the best of the world. He has seen, in his travels, that American ordnance was better than that abroad; that the armor was far in advance, and that its ships were faster than those of equal displacement and type, and its small arm the best of the world.

Ex-Gov. Silas Woodson died at his home in St. Joseph, Mo., Friday. In 1872 Woodson was elected Governor, serving four years.

The Republicans are treating Bryan very nicely everywhere, as they should, for he is doing more for them than anybody else could. He is doing more for them than anybody else could. He is doing more for them than anybody else could. He is doing more for them than anybody else could.

Rev. Dr. A. S. Fisk, of New York, is in the city visiting his friend, Col. Jack Pickens, and making excursions to the neighboring battlefields. Comrade Fisk, who has attained a National reputation as an orator, is Pastor of a Presbyterian Church at Ithaca, and served during the war in the 4th Minn. He has been Chaplain of the Department of California, G. A. R., and of the Department of New York.

The Florida Storm. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: On the 29th of last month a West India hurricane passed over us and left desolation in its path. There are but three old Union veterans here. One escaped all injury to family or place; the two others fared badly. Comrade Clinton E. Eisman, who served three years in the 103d Ohio (Col. Jack Cosens), is a farmer, and had recently bought a farm and paid one-half on it. The cotton, which he had picked, was in a barn. The barn was blown away, and with it went his cotton. What corn and cotton is left in the field is almost a total loss. Comrade Eisman is a poor man, and has a large family dependent on him. He is a pensioner, and has been using his small pension to help pay for his place. He is now destitute; his crops gone, and all his buildings gone, except his dwelling.

As for myself, I was a sailor and served on board the U. S. Ironclad, the California. I have no family but a wife. I am an invalid pensioner. I had but a few days ago got my pension, and had spent it nearly all in provisions. They are nearly all lost. My dwelling is twisted out of all shape. My yard is a mass of ruins. A detached kitchen is lying in ruins. The yard 20 feet from where it used to stand. The roof of the dwelling is partly off, and the worst of it all is I am not able to pay to have it fixed up again. I have been for years thinking myself to get this little home together. While not wishing to pose as a beggar, still, if anyone thinks, after reading the above, that a little financial help sent to Comrade Eisman or myself would be acceptable, they would be right, and it would be gratefully received.—JOHN D. ANDREWS, Gen. St. Mary, Fla.

HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian HAIR RENEWER Beautifies and restores Gray Hair to its original color and vitality; prevents baldness; cures itching and dandruff. A fine hair dressing. R. P. Hall & Co., Props., 117 Nassau, N. Y. Sold by all Druggists.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The situation looks better in California. The "California Sound Money League" has been organized, and a large number of influential men are all the able, influential men in the State, and so it exerts a powerful influence. It is working in complete harmony with the Republican State Committee, and the good effects are already apparent. (Thomas B. Reed, Banker Cockran, and other speakers of National reputation, have been urged to visit the State, and may do so. The business men are anxious to demonstrate that the cry of the politicians that "California is for Free Silver" has no basis in fact.)

There are men around the National Popercite Headquarters who do not hesitate to say that the silver-mine owners are getting very sick of their present treatment by Bryan, and so it exerts a powerful influence. It is working in complete harmony with the Republican State Committee, and the good effects are already apparent. (Thomas B. Reed, Banker Cockran, and other speakers of National reputation, have been urged to visit the State, and may do so. The business men are anxious to demonstrate that the cry of the politicians that "California is for Free Silver" has no basis in fact.)

Joshua Levering, the Prohibition candidate for President, has started on a stumping tour through the South. He will speak in seven States.

The registration of New York shows large gains over all previous records.

Though there is no expectation of carrying Alabama for McKinley, hopes are entertained of electing a number of Sound Money Representatives from the 12th Congressional District. The Republicans have either withdrawn their candidates or not made nominations, and endorsed the Sound Money Democratic candidates.

Republican chances in Louisiana are not so bright as they were a month ago, owing to the failure of all movements toward fusion.

People continue to wonder at the inexplicable silence of "the Senatorial combine" which precipitated Bryan upon the country. Senators Daniel, White, Cockrell, Vest, Turpin, Harris, Tate, and others, are wonderfully and appreciably quiet. Only Chairman Jones, Teller, and Tillman are making any show of activity. Bland is also very still. It is said that Bryan snubbed him, and that Mrs. Bryan also offended Mrs. Bland.

Representative Bontelle is on his way to California, Washington, and Oregon, where he will remain until the election.

Representative Dingley is to make speeches in Michigan.

The Republican campaign is now counting only 300 or 400 votes in the electoral college for McKinley. They are straining to secure this beyond a doubt, so as to utterly crush the Free Silver here, and open wide the doors for a complete resumption of prosperity, to be won with daybreak on the morning of Nov. 4.

The Republicans have over 400 fine prominent speakers actively at work in the campaign.

There is a remarkable slump among the Popercite voters in Indiana. On the first of the month Gen. Harrison expressed himself frankly that the situation in the State was a dangerous one. He says that 50,000 of the State's cashiers of the savings banks are turning to McKinley.

The most conspicuous Bryan leader in southern Indiana is Jack Reno, one of the infamous boys who were with Copperheads and Knights of the Golden Circle during the war, and after the war were notorious as express robbers. It is estimated that they robbed the Adams Express Company of over \$500,000. The mortality rate among the Popercite voters and Jack was one of those sent to the penitentiary. He has been keeping a saloon at Seymour, Ind., since his release.

Gen. Harrison will devote the rest of the time left election to the stump, making rearranging his coat of arms, and making occasional excursions elsewhere where the people are very anxious to hear him.

West Virginia is having the greatest campaign in the history of the State, with an army of stump-speakers pervading every portion. And how to direct cooks in the way of preparing dishes favored by imperial personages. They must have a capacity of being able to read aloud for hours if necessary, without undue fatigue; of being able to stand for indefinite periods; of being able to receive snuffings, scoldings, even abuse with patient composure, and finally they must inoculate within them the fact that the Empress or Grand Duchess is a personage almost divine in stature.

All these accomplishments acquired, or apparently acquired, it remains with a maid-of-honor lastly to be of such favor in her features, her general appearance, and her dress that she enforces attraction from the Empress or from one or the other of the half-dozen Grand Duchesses of Russia, who are permitted to have the second pick of the maid-of-honor after the Czarina has finished her own appointments. Before, however, such appointments can be ratified, the czar himself inspects the candidates. Indeed, at various periods, the czar makes a point of visiting the school and generally "looks over" the girls.

The Czarina's maid-of-honor enjoy a bar-baric splendor of costume that far exceeds anything to be seen at any other European court. A white satin robe stretches from chin to toes, the buttons up the front being set with precious stones. Over this is thrown a sort of velvet cloak, embroidered with gold, and having long pendant sleeves. On their heads rests the kakechnik, or National cap, of crimson velvet, thickly studded with jewels, from the summit of which hangs a veil of white tulle that spreads half way over the voluminous train. This gorgeous array is donned on all state occasions until the wearer passes from the "cylinder" to the "portrait" stage of promotion. The junior wear for some years on their left their crimson and gold for a less radiant cap of green and silver. While receiving their education they wear plain woollen frocks, with frilled silk aprons; but these dresses are so contrived that the upper part of the bodice and the long sleeve can be removed at will. Whenever the czar visits the schools all the girls appear décolleté.

Senator Barrows says that Michigan will certainly give her vote to McKinley.

Senator Quay says that the election of McKinley is "an accomplished and assured fact." He will receive 270 votes, Bryan will receive 110, and there are 67 doubtful.

Congressman Bailey concedes Palmer 50,000 votes in Texas, and says that Bryan will have 50,000 plurality. Chairman E. B. Hoar has read a poem, and several prominent members made addresses. A letter of regret was read from Col. Oliver Edwards, as he could not be present. These offers were elected: C. E. Tracy; First V. P., T. T. Manning; Second V. P., E. D. Taylor; Third V. P., Thomas Porter; Sec., James L. Brown, Springfield; Treas., H. M. Abbott.

Senator Forsaker feels sure of the electoral votes of both Kansas and Nebraska for McKinley.

Reunion of the 37th Mass. The annual Reunion of the 37th Mass. Regimental Association was held in Springfield recently. All the companies in the regiment were represented, and 125 members were present. Secretary Bowen reported the following list of those who have died during the past year: Surg. Elisha M. White, Surg. Thomas C. Law, Lieut. P. Woodbridge Morton, Andrew Winter and Corp. William C. Caloun, of Co. A; John Morse, George Snyder and Luther S. Wright, of Co. C; Benjamin F. Eddy, of Co. E; David D. Morse and Reuben S. Robinson, of Co. F; Joel Lilly, of Co. H. E. Hoar has read a poem, and several prominent members made addresses. A letter of regret was read from Col. Oliver Edwards, as he could not be present. These offers were elected: C. E. Tracy; First V. P., T. T. Manning; Second V. P., E. D. Taylor; Third V. P., Thomas Porter; Sec., James L. Brown, Springfield; Treas., H. M. Abbott.

Much Pleased with the Flag. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I received the flag, and we were all very much pleased with it.—D. M. PRICK, Hackettstown, N. J.



WARM FRONT OF THE SUN THREAD. Whereon my rose so red Doth rest its blushing head! The hands that made me so Are dust, and none may know Who wrought them thus, long ago. But at the final Day, Some angel-voice may say, "Ye singers grant me way, And through that throng shall go The penitence poor and low Who wove this song in snow!" —New York Tribune.

A little work, a little play To keep us going—and so good-day! A little warmth, a little light Of love's bestowing—and so good-night! A little fun to match the sorrow Of each day's growing—and so good-morrow! A little trust that when we die We reap our sowing! And so—good-bye!

We quote from Anna Morton Lane's letter in the Philadelphia Times a very interesting account of the Maids of Honor about the Russian Empress. I suppose this royal lady has a more splendid array of damsels in waiting than any other Queen or Empress. The Queen of England had but a modest number and a minimum of ceremonial in comparison. And to us, in our dear old democratic country, the Russian court affairs sound like a fairy tale.

Speaking of the Russian schools, there is one academy at Moscow which is unique in its way. It is a school for young ladies of high birth, whose parents desire that they shall become maids of honor at the Imperial Court.

In Russia there are several institutions which retain an Oriental flavor, and the fact that the Czarina is always surrounded by an imposing bevy of unmarried women is a case in point. At least 40 young women, all the daughters of great nobles, pay her personal services. They are in two ranks, "cylinder" and "portrait," distinctions which I will presently explain.

Candidates for the position of maids of honor to the Empress have their names registered by a court official, whose title might be translated as "Overseer of the Maids." This is often done a day or two after the birth of the aspiring young ladies. At the age of 10 they enter the official school of the maids of honor, and there they are taught everything pertaining to the court as well as everything that goes to make a well educated young gentleman.

The girls must acquire the art of legible writing, and be able to correspond fluently not only in Russian, but in English, German, French and Italian. They must be able to take dictation in all those languages rapidly. They are also expected to become familiar not only with the routine etiquette of their own and foreign courts, but they must learn rules of precedence, delicate distinctions of rank, and other intricacies of court life, almost impossible to explain to those who have not been born in the atmosphere of the purple. Future maids-of-honor are also required to be not only clever at embroidery, but capable, if necessary, of ordinary domestic stitching. While in attendance there are always possibilities of a ready needle being required for the Empress or a Grand Duchess.

They are expected to know how to order a dinner, and how to direct cooks in the way of preparing dishes favored by imperial personages. They must have a capacity of being able to read aloud for hours if necessary, without undue fatigue; of being able to stand for indefinite periods; of being able to receive snuffings, scoldings, even abuse with patient composure, and finally they must inoculate within them the fact that the Empress or Grand Duchess is a personage almost divine in stature.

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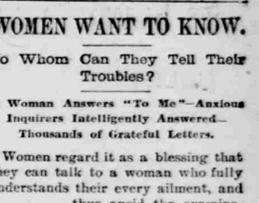
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A frock of checked wool goods is made rather plainly, with a full front, either gathered, tucked or pleated, and fastened at one side. Over this side are two bands of dark velvet ribbon ending in bows at the shoulder and waist. A belt and collar of velvet complete the frock. It is very pretty carried out in a brownish. When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became a Woman, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

WOMEN WANT TO KNOW.

To Whom Can They Tell Their Troubles? A Woman Answers "To Me"—Anxious Inquirers Intelligently Answered.—Thousands of Grateful Letters. Women regard it as a blessing that they can talk to a woman who fully understands their every ailment, and thus avoid the examinations, experiments and theories of incompetent physicians, whose sex deprives them of knowing by experience. The endless confidence placed in Mrs. Pinkham by American women, prompts them to seek her advice constantly. Female diseases yield first to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once. Inflammation, ulceration, falling and displacement of the womb, ovarian troubles, spinal weakness and kidney complaints, all have their symptoms, and should be "nipped in the bud." Bearing-down pains, backache, headache, nervousness, pains in groins, lassitude, whites, irregularities, dread of impending evil, blues, sleeplessness, faintness, etc. Here is testimony right to the point: "The doctors told me that unless I went to the hospital and had an operation performed, I could not live. I had falling, enlargement and ulceration of the womb. "I was in constant misery all the time; my back ached; I was always tired. It was impossible for me to walk far or stand long at a time. I was surely a wreck. I decided that I would give your Compound and Sanative Wash a trial. "I took three bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and used two packages of Sanative Wash, and I am now almost well. I am stouter and healthier than I have ever been in my life. My friends and neighbors and the doctors are surprised at my rapid improvement. I have told them all what I have been taking. "—MRS. ANNETTA BICKMEYER, Belmont Co., O.



Another frock, very simple in fashion, is of flowered silk and plain cassimere. The silk is used for the waist and lower part of the sleeves, the cassimere for the skirt and sleeve puffs. The belt and stock-collar are of black satin. The silk for the waist may be of plaid, check, or flowered pattern, with a black ground, or with black predominating. The cassimere is black. It can be carried out in other colors very satisfactorily.

It is said that the Czarina of Russia has 527 frocks.

To please and thrill fur for dress trimming seems to strain a point, and yet it is done.

Big muffs are to be in favor again, and also little sealskin jackets, made to fit the figure neatly in the back and under the arm, but with loose fronts.

A pretty frock may be made of gray with trimmings of black open-work braid or lace over white satin.

The woman who eats apples has 10 more chances of having a pretty skin than the woman who does not.

Gertrude Atherton, a New York newspaper woman of most remarkable ideas, says that the natural and inevitable result of modern progress and evolution is to bring about the highest advancement of the American woman and the Englishman. She argues that the English woman is not so mentally or physically, for the splendid Englishman, and also that the American man does not equal his countrywoman, so that it is no wonder there are so many Englishmen marrying our women. Which, while it sounds very clever, is as absurd a statement as one could hear in a week of Sundays, as every other American woman will testify.

AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFER. Cut this out and send it to us with your name and address, and we will send you the magnificent reward for your subscription. You examine it at the express office, and if you consider it a valuable and useful preparation, send us the \$2.00 in full. We will send you the medicine immediately. This is a rare opportunity to obtain a medicine which is so valuable and so cheap. It is a cure for all the ailments of the human system. It is a cure for all the ailments of the human system. It is a cure for all the ailments of the human system.

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