GOWN OF GRAY POPLIN, TRIMMED WITH WHITE BRAID AND STEEL ORNAMENTS.

"LIVING IN THE OPEN."

SOME OF THE DELIGHTS A WOMAN FOUND IN NATURE'S WORKSHOP.

AN OLD RAIL FENCE THAT WAS FULL OF POETRY AND A THRUSH AND SQUIRREL OF THE "ELYSIAN FIELDS."

Too little do American girls appreciate out-of-doors, or "living in the open," as a bright German girl expressed it.

"One might as well ask fish to live in the water as to ask boys to live out of doors; sensible, comfortable boys, without corsets, long skirts or coils of heavy hair; they live in the air and sunshine, and laugh defiance at nerves and headache," said a woman scientist, who is a great believer in fresh air.

"There is more to find out of doors than air and sunshine; there is a world so fascinating, so charming, it is worth conquering and living in, and it is conquered by observation. I do not mean the world of golf, tennis and bicycling; those interesting worlds are already conquered and inhabited with enthusiastic dwellers, but it is the world of nature I would ask you to explore.

"Girls who live in the country and those who spend their summers amid green fields do not often know the bird songs, and flowers are only passing acquaintances. Every girl should know the flora and fauna of her neighborhood, if she be a country girl, and a summer sojourner can learn much of the places she frequents. I will give you a description of a day I spent out of doors recently with some friends.

"We climb over a fence; it is only a broken-down old rail fence shambling across the pasture lot, but it interests us at once; the getting over suggests the superstition of fences, or fence-lore, because one of the party does not want the trouble of climbing over—prefers squeezing under the top rail, through an easy opening. She is at once confronted with: 'If you go under a rail ill-luck will follow you through life.' She stops, crawls out, and mounts the top rail.

"Another says we must not cross the corner of a fence or the devil will follow us, but cross in the middle—this a negro superstition. We are in the fatal corner; we look furtively around; Satan is not in sight, but he may appear suddenly if we do not heed the admonition. We are over, but we cannot leave. We sit down on the grass and look at the fence; each post has swaying vines creeping up and festooning themselves in graceful curves.

"The girl from town says: 'I never knew that farmers had so much taste, planting vines at every fence post; they must be quite æsthetic; but I suppose æsthetics influence every one in these days, even the farmers.' I explain that nature has beautified the old rail fence.

"'These rails are a study in shading,' says the artistic girl. Indeed, they are; the sun, wind and rain had toned the rails to softest gray; green and gray lichens and moss had crept over them, and the graceful tendrils of the Virginia creeper clinging here and there completed the ornamentation.

"A flash of dusky red and brown startles the dreaming artist. It is only a merry little chipmunk! Come here in the shelter of these bushes and you will see him again. We nestle under the shelter of some drooping alders, and soon the chipmunk creeps out of his hole in the fence and runs fearlessly up and down, giving, the artist said, 'the bit of ruddy tint needed to bring the cool shades of lichen, vine and moss into a harmony of color.'

A leap, a dash, a flash of gray!
The squirrel is on his own highway.

"On he comes, over the rails, leaping the clustering vines, dashing along. Attracted by a rustle in the alders, he pauses directly in front of us, sits erect, his bushy tail curled saucily over his back, his bright eyes watching; another rustle in the alders brings forth an impertinent scolding chatter; away he goes! A gleam of gray on the old fence, and he has vanished!

"See the dirt fly from under the fence! What can it be? Oh, the mystery is solved. A fine, fat woodchuck emerges from his half-finished home and sits against the fence to take a resting spell. Like his cousin, the beaver, he sits on his haunches, his short paws under his sharp nose, his keen, watchful eyes looking out for his enemies, men and dogs. He hears and sees nothing; all is silent; down he goes again, and the dirt flies upward.

"Hush! Softly! A wood thrush, his speckled breast shining in the sunlight, alights on the fence. His mate flies near. Hark to the soft, clear, bell-like notes! We are lifted above the everyday world. The common pasture lots become the Elysian Fields. The old rail fence the heights of Olympus. He is silent! The ceaseless chatter and singing of the other birds seem the distant tumult of the world—he, the chanting singer in a great cathedral. Once more he lifts his heavenly voice, then on swift wings flies to his mate. The pasture and fence seem deserted and lonely when he has gone.

"'The play is over,' says the country girl, 'that was the last act. The curtain is falling; let us go.'

"'Wait,' says the literary girl, 'we have seen and appreciated a bit of Nature, now let us hear what two noted writers have also seen and heard.'

"She turned to her book and read F. Hopkinson Smith's exquisite description of a rail fence, then from one of John Burroughs's fascinating books on out-of-door life she reads his description of the wood thrush. It is a perfect finish to our day out-of-doors.

"'I had no idea,' said the town girl, 'that a common rail fence could be so interesting. It was almost as entertaining as a matinee.'"

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SOMETHING ABOUT FELINES.

COMFORTABLE HOMES FOR STRAY PUSSIES—MANY FIND OWNERS.

THE TABBY'S NAME OF ANCIENT ORIGIN—WHITE CATS WITH BLUE EYES AND BLACK CATS WITH YELLOW EYES.

Cats may be considered the most specialized of all the carnivora, and all the known members of this genus, in the natural state, feed almost exclusively on warm-blooded animals which they themselves have killed. They never associate in packs like dogs, nor hunt their prey on open ground, and are mostly nocturnal. The wildcat of Europe still inhabits the mountainous and wooded parts of Great Britain. The domestic cat is supposed to be derived from the feline tribe of Egypt and Syria. The long-haired, or so-called Asiatic, cat, is the most admired of all the numerous kinds of cats, but they are not, as is supposed, more delicate in constitution than their short-haired relatives. Nor do they require any more care, except that their coats need to be regularly brushed and groomed to keep them in good condition.

Washing a cat is not to be entirely commended, but if puss has occasionally bits of sweet butter she will attend to the washing herself soon after.

Cats are of so many colors that in choosing one the individual fancy may be suited. The Angora cats, from Angora, Western Asia, are said to be great favorites with the Turks and Armenians. These cats are of different colors. The black, also the slate-colored, have orange-colored eyes, and the white have eyes of heavenly blue.

The Russian cats are seldom seen in this country. They have larger bodies and shorter legs than

"QUEEN BLUE EYES."

the Angoras; their immense woolly mane and frill give a most picturesque appearance. It is said of them that they never show any attachment for human beings, though this is contradicted by their admirers, who declare it is only because they have always received bad treatment.

Some one has discovered that the tabby cat gets her name from an ancient source—no less than from Attab, Governor of Mecca away back in the seventh century. In due time this Governor's descendants were among the founders of Bagdad, the names of those to whom lands were granted being given to the quarter of the city where these lands were situated; so came the Attabiyah quarter of West Bagdad, subsequently famous for its silk looms. A visitor to that city in 1184 describes the stuffs made there, called Attabi, as of variegated colors of mixed silk and cotton. This material gradually became known all through Europe, and Elizabeth is said to have worn a dress of tabi (Italian name for this material) at the reception of the Venetian envoy in 1602. Samuel Pepys speaks in his diary of one day putting on his "false tabby waistcoat with gold lace." Miss Burney, at a reception at Windsor in 1776, appeared in a gown of "lilac tabby," and Dr. Johnson says that the tabby cat is so named from the brindled markings of its fur. So much for tabby's name.

CATS NOT AFFECTIONATE.

Some recent scientist tells us that the lack of affection shown by cats in general is one reason why more attention has not been given to their habits and characteristics, and that they are by nature as intelligent as the dog, but they have never had the training like the latter.

A St. Louis engineer has a cat that he has taught to sit up and lie down and to mew at his command. This cat has also learned to wait for the elevator, instead of using the stairs, and does many other clever things. Its owner thinks that cats are not so ignorant as they are supposed to be, and considers them worth training.

HOME FOR CATS.

In London a society for the protection of cats has been organized, supported by the Duke of Bedford and other prominent people. A home has also been opened where all the stray cats found in London can be taken; the miserable ones are painlessly killed, while the healthy ones are kept and cared for. Cat shows are sometimes held there, the visitors often taking cats home for pets, and not infrequently a lost family pet is thus restored.

A Western woman has a cat farm on an Ohio lake, where she breeds fine animals for cat-lovers. There are a number of cat farms in the West where these animals are bred, and the fur is used in making fur garments. The animals, it is said, are well fed and cared for, this being necessary to make the fur fine and glossy, and the method of killing is declared to be painless, so that there is no cruelty connected with it.

Uncle Sam takes good care of his Army cats, and they prove invaluable in the destruction of rats. These cats are particular about what they eat. They will not touch hardtack, and meat is bought specially for them. It is said that these animals cost the Government about five cents a day each, but they have saved thousands of dollars, protecting its stores, etc.

This midsummer a poor-looking woman was seen a number of times toward night on one of the fashionable uptown streets crossing Fifth-ave. She carried a basket, and when she reached a certain house she was surrounded by numberless cats, running to her from all directions. Upon inquiry it was discovered that this poor woman brought food for the cats of the neighborhood. The families all being away, these poor creatures were left without food, though during the winter they were used to the best. She said she never gave them anything in front of the houses, as the owners might object, but she always came that way because just around the corner there was a vacant lot, where the cats could take the food and eat it. She also said that the neighboring families would not feed them for fear of being pestered with them afterward. The food for them she got by asking for it at some of the nearby restaurants.

OUR ALLEY CATS.

From The Chicago Record.

Our alley cats seem racked with pain
From dusk till daylight smiles again;
And we who listen in duress
To their long cries of wild distress,
Through endless nights, and aim in vain
To still their griefs with missiles, fain
Would seek to learn what deeds insane
Or words profane might render less
Our alley cats.

Our alley cats dodge or disdain
The remedies we send, and train
Their voices higher to express
Scorn for the rage we thus confess,
While we in vain strive on to brain
Our alley cats.

Perhaps it is in response to the above jingle that a German has invented a bomb to be thrown at nocturnal cats. This bomb is about as large as a baseball, and upon forcible contact will explode with a loud noise, but is warranted perfectly harmless. There may be many people who will think this a most satisfactory invention, economical also, as they can be always kept on hand and so avoid the throwing away of useful articles in the wild endeavor to disturb the visitors. It will not be necessary to hit the cat always, as the noise of the explosion will be sufficient to frighten it. The inventor insists that this contrivance will prove a blessing to humanity, though he does not state that the explosion of the bomb may also serve to increase the suffering of the neighbors.

BREEDING OF CATS.

The chief hobby of Mrs. Herring, of Lestock House, Lee, Kent, England, is the breeding of feline beauties, of which she has twenty, including Champion Jimmy, a prize-winner at innumerable cat shows. Mrs. Herring's cats go only to shows to which their mistress accompanies them. Their list of gold and silver medals is formidable. Of the intelligence of cats Mrs. Herring has a high opinion. She is fond of telling this story of Tom, who for months continued to keep command of a free entry to a hanging poultry and game larder, secured by a button on the door.

As Tom always fastened up this same door, turning the button properly upon it, after committing his secret depredations, no one suspected that the missing articles were to be laid to his charge. The mistress followed the mystery. When sitting at her window one day she saw Tom steal along the top of the wall, jump down to the safe, undo the door, and, after securing a plump supper, refutton the catch and depart with his prize.

Equally clever is a beautiful chinchilla short-hair cat, the property of Mrs. Herring's mother. This pussy was ambitious to be let in by the front door, and, having discovered that the knocker was within her reach, she fell to rapping a postman's knock, thus showing that she had observed and understood the celerity that responded to that interesting summons.

Kittens, Mrs. Herring says, are extremely difficult to rear with other cats about. Her cats have two substantial meals daily—milk in the morning and meat at one meal, one day they have bread soaked in strong stock made from meat and vegetables, while on alternate days it is composed of fish and bread. In winter pussy breakfasts on Quaker oats boiled in milk. A much appreciated flavor is added to this soaked bread by the use of poultry giblets for stock. As a preventative of illness these high-bred felines are given an occasional dose of sulphur or rhubab and magnesia.

KITTENS.
By Mme. Henritte Romer.

PLANT SACRED TO THE DRUIDS.

The plant known as the vervain, common name of plants of the genus verbena, which is not distinguished for its beauty, and which grows nowadays utterly disregarded, was so sacred to the Druids that they only gathered it for their divinations when the great dog star arose, in order that neither sun nor moon should see the deed.

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SLOW BUT PLEASANT.

HOUSEBOAT IMPOSSIBLE, SO THEY TAKE A CANALBOAT.

ODD COLONY IN ERIE BASIN—CLOSE QUARTERS, BUT THE SOCIAL LIFE PLEASANT AND ATTRACTIVE.

Houseboating sounds so tempting, but unfortunately houseboats are rather an expensive luxury, and, like yachts, are only for a few. Canalboats can be made over into houseboats also, but that costs more money and requires more time than a party of many school teachers felt able to expend at the close of school this year.

They wanted a houseboat so badly, but conditions were altogether unfavorable, so, though it was not what they had dreamed of, they made the best of it, and took a trip on a canalboat to Buffalo and return.

Canalboats may not look inviting, it is true, as seen from the deck of a ferryboat or from the roadway of the Bridge, but these women in search of novelty and rest discovered that much pleasure combined with comfort may be had on one of these stubby little craft.

Upon inquiry they ascertained that some canalboat captains are owners of two boats, which travel together, coupled, one ahead of the other, and are only uncoupled in going through some locks, and in rough water, before getting into the river.

After long searching they succeeded in finding a good-natured captain, who was soon to start for Buffalo with grain, and he rented them all the cabins on one of his boats, which meant practically the whole boat to themselves.

It was, to say the least, an experiment, but it proved a lucky one, for the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The captain's wife did the cooking—delicious cooking, too—and served the meals on her particular boat. A large awning on deck, with hammocks and steamer chairs, made a most delightful lounging place. Plenty of books, a guitar and a mandolin or two, and a kodack gave them plenty of amusement.

The trip from New-York to Buffalo and return took about a month, the actual time to Buffalo being about ten days. The going through the locks was an interesting experience. At Lockport the boats go through five successive locks almost like a flight of steps. Between Troy and Cohoes in a distance of three miles there are sixteen locks.

This trip was such a success that the party has decided to save all spare pennies toward buying an old canalboat and making it over into a houseboat, which, with this summer's experience, the women think they would know how to do, at very moderate expense. In their search for a boat these women met with the most kindly and courteous treatment from the captains with whom they were brought in contact, and if they had no boats to rent themselves they took particular pains to put the seekers in the way of getting what they wanted.

CANALBOAT LIFE.

The regular canalboat life may be monotonous, but it has its interests and pleasures. Nearly all the captains own their own boats, and are genial, kindly, sturdy men, most of them from the central part of the State, and the wives are well brought up. Living so much of the time on the water and away from their native heaths, they retain all the characteristics of country people.

At the Quincy docks, in this city, where many of the boats come in to load and unload during the summer, there is a little settlement. The children play about the docks and all sorts of venders go around with their wares. A cobbler makes his tour among the boats to see if there are any shoes to be mended, and, though coming to New-York so often, many of the women go little about the city and know only the little part just about them, which is not enticing enough to make them want to look further.

Most of the families live the whole year on their boats, though some go back to their country or village homes for the winter; many do the latter on account of school advantages for the children.

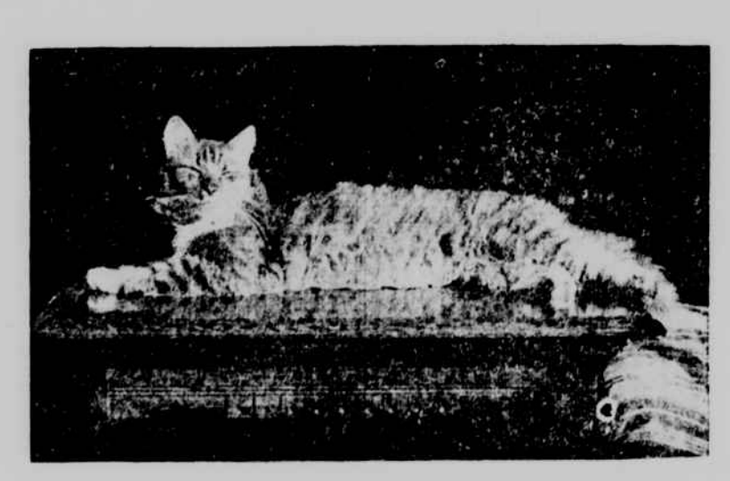
During the winter months, or from November, when the boats begin to come in, until April, Erie Basin is a thickly populated district. There, midwinter finds about five hundred boats thickly packed together. Each boat contains a family, so they have a society of their own. They have their teas and their parties, and form a goodly part of the congregations of two large churches in that part of Brooklyn surrounding the Basin.

As with the farmers, winter is their dull season, so they take advantage of it, their rather isolated life during the summer making them all the more ready to enjoy social pleasure during the cold days.

While housekeeping is light in one respect, as the quarters are small, yet the snugness demands that the rooms should have special care, so once a week on board a regular, old-fashioned house-cleaning takes place.

Often the families will take on board a guest—some friend or relative, for a trip, and sometimes a stranger may engage passage, but the captain's boat is his castle, and he is rather chary about admitting outsiders, in such close quarters an unpleasant guest being more than objectionable.

The best time for a canalboat trip is in May, June or September. Midsummer may be a little uncomfortable on account of the heat, as the cabins are small, and the rate of speed not sufficient to create much breeze.



BEAU BRUMMEL.
Property of Mrs. C. La Rue Munson, of Titusville, Penn.

PRETTY THINGS TO WEAR.

All indications point to navy blue as a popular color for fall and winter wear. Its selection, in most minds, is a sentimental choice, as one fondly imagines she is honoring our naval heroes by wearing gowns of that color. Aside from this, the fact is that navy blue is becoming to blondes, brunettes and "mediums" alike. It makes dark eyes shine, brings out the blue in gray eyes and heightens the tone value of blue eyes.

"National blue," a new color this season, is a clear, lively tone of deep blue, and bids fair to rival navy blue in popular favor. Emerald green is revived this season, and a shade of sea-green comes to us from Paris, under the name of "Neptune."

The reds in the importations are coquelicot, cerise and geranium in the more vivid tones of the color, with a trenching of crimson, fuchsia and petunia, and a revival of a pale purplish hue somewhat resembling the magenta of long ago.

The grays are graduated in tone and known as platine, aluminum, nickel and silver, the paler shades being more popular.

Violet, with dahlia and Ophelia in the reddish purples, makes a Frenchy combination for a fall hat.

There has been an inclination seen this summer for a revival of the style of dress made for little girls some five or ten years ago. The fashion was then called Greenaway; if it becomes confirmed it will probably have another name. The long, full frocks gave the small figures a quaint look that the Frenchy short gowns never impart. A feature this year is the low neck and short sleeves. Guimpes may be worn, but on hot days are left off with equal propriety.

Some of the many attractions of the stores are heavy black taffeta, with a satin gloss, for odd skirts; China glove-boxes, ready-made boxed waist linings, corded shirt waists with bloused front, taffeta in cameo checks for shirt waists, corded gingham shirt waists, colored lawn petticoats, light and medium colored velvet for belts and collars, Liberty satin foulards in scroll and floral patterns, light shades of kid-finished stationery, tucked skirts of linen or crash, feather and mousseline boas, stickpins of a half-furled flag, tancloth laced shoes and black grenadine over colored silk.

"ONLY WOMAN'S" NEWSPAPER.

The above is the sub-title to "The Woman's Weekly," a new publication that has been brought out in London and professes to deal with news gossip, fashions and fiction. There are many little tid-bits of news on subjects interesting to woman the world over. Sociology and theology are treated in their turn, and book reviews have a prominent column. The society news takes first rank in order of precedence, but the fiction receives the greatest amount of attention in point of space. While each subject is treated with impartiality, there is the briefest mention of the one which is an all-absorbing topic in America, namely, the war with Spain. It is charged with being the cause of a defection of American patronage in the clothing emporiums of Europe, and the weekly says, "has resulted very disastrously for West End shopkeepers, and has spoiled a good many prearranged parties."

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DEVELOPMENT OF MUSIC.

THE WORLD IS INDEBTED TO SEVERAL MONKS FOR THEIR DISCOVERIES.

In one of a series of lectures on "The Development of Music," delivered recently by I. V. Flagler, of Auburn, N. Y., he says:

"To Guido Arctinus, who lived in 990, a Benedictine monk of the Monastery of Pomposa, a little town of Tuscany, we are indebted for the art of solmization, the adoption of the lines of the staff, the use of the clefs and other improvements. To Hueball, a Flemish monk, we owe the introduction of the organum, a primitive species of harmony, and we are under similar obligations to Franco, a monk of Cologne, for the art of measuring music by the use of notes.

"The introduction of the pipe organ in France, in the year 757, followed by its general use in the churches of the West, gave a powerful impetus to the study and development of harmony. At first the organ was used as an accompaniment to the voice, entirely in unison, but the ease with which several sounds could be distinguished at once, and the fact that many combinations of sounds seemed agreeable to the ear, led to the gradual discovery of counterpoint and harmony. The minor 2d was one of the first noticed for its pleasing effect, though only at the close of the song.

"In the year 1022 the scale first took the form which it now retains. One of the more remarkable things in the development of music is the lateness at which notation was devised for defining the relative length of musical sounds, especially when we consider that the rhythmical sense is the earliest and strongest of the musical faculties of mankind. There is no record among the ancients that they had many signs of indication for the length of notes, and centuries rolled over Christendom before there was any chronicled attempt to find a principle for supplying this necessity.

"In the same year in which William Duke of Normandy conquered England and introduced into that country, which was still in a condition of barbarism, the germ of manners and civilization, Franco, a monk of Cologne, reduced to a system the rules respecting rhythm, which had been established before his time. He distinguished three kinds of time—the long, the breve and the semi-breve. At this period music was written on four lines, but in the year 1022 Guido Arctinus, the Benedictine monk, introduced the use of the staff with five lines, on which, with the spaces, he marked his notes by setting a point up and down upon them to denote the rise and fall of the voice.

"From the time of Charlemagne, during six centuries everything was done to strengthen the dogmas of the Church. Many examples of haggling about technicalities can be given which are absurd, childish and laughable in their bigotry. Marchettus, of Padua, insisted upon all notes having the tail upon the right side, because Christ received the spear in his right side. Franco thought triple time the only perfect time, because it expresses the idea of the Holy Trinity. In this period the notes were colored red, blue, green and yellow to denote the tone of thought.

"The crusaders to the Holy Sepulchre gave a powerful impetus to the cultivation of minstrelsy, and fostered the growth of that class of musicians known as the troubadours, who, from their attendance on royalty and nobility, acquired enormous power in the course of time, which eventually led to their suppression.

"The same inclination which led to the founding and establishing of the troubadours in the Roman nations called into life the minnegesang in Germanic nations. The minnesinger not only composed but played and sang his own songs, accompanying himself on a small triangular harp. I might mention that most of the troubadours and minnesingers were noblemen, but as the poetic and musical art became at length open to the burghers and practised in the guilds, the schools of the German mastersingers soon followed. Remember, at this period a soprano or woman's voice was unknown. That tyrant, man, has usurped and held on to every prerogative, artistic, political and religious, to the exclusion of woman, from time immemorial. Even now he is endeavoring to exclude women from the choir of some churches."

GOOD HOME MADE CEMENT.

Equal parts of litharge and glycerine mixed together to the consistency of putty make a good cement for mending almost everything breakable about a kitchen. This cement will mend stone jars or any coarse earthenware, stop leaks in tin pans or washboilers and cracks in iron kettles. When lamp tops are loose they can be fastened on the lamp with it and it will also tighten loose nuts or bolts where the nuts have been lost. Properly mixed, the cement will resist the action of hot and cold water, acids and almost any degree of heat. Of course, care should be taken to see that it is perfectly dry and hard before the article mended is used; it sometimes takes a week for the cement to harden, and at other times only a day. This depends upon the amount of cement used and the state of the weather for drying purposes.

ALLIGATORS AS PETS.

HOW TO CARE FOR THEM IN SUMMER AND WINTER.

"People are constantly bringing small alligators North," said J. Atkinson, of New-Brunswick, N. J., the other day, "and the creatures are as constantly dying because they do not receive the proper care. The heat and food necessary for them are the things to be considered. I no longer try to bring the smallest specimens; they are too delicate, but a pair a foot or more long are strong enough to feed and to bear some change of temperature. Such a pair I received some time ago and raised successfully. They were packed in wads of cotton in a large perforated box, and arrived in good condition.

"The home prepared for them was a large deal table, in the centre of which a square hole was made. Into this was fitted a deep dripping-pan containing water. One-half of the table, at the end of the pan of water, was covered with fine sand, and at the opposite end the boards were left bare. A wire-netting fence about two feet high was nailed around the edge of the table, with the upper edges turned over some inch or two as a guard to prevent the alligator's climbing out. The whole was placed not far from a heater, supposed to keep the establishment at Florida temperature.

"Into this, as soon as completed, the two young saurians were turned, and at once testified their appreciation of the hospitality tendered by flopping into the water, where they thereafter spent the larger part of their time.

"Grown alligators do not feed in winter, but the little ones seem to require food, whether from change of climate or the needs of growth I cannot say. These had fresh meat given them whenever they appeared restless, perhaps once or twice a week, and the avidity with which they snapped it up was amusing. They would jump at pieces held above them on a fork quite heedless of the often severe jabs they gave themselves.

"The best method of feeding is to throw the meat into the water. They were apparently unable to get anything off the bare ground, often crawling over meat lying on the boards, wholly unconscious of its presence. To clean their cage it was only necessary to pen them into one end of their house by means of a board, although when it became necessary to lift them it was perfectly safe to seize them just back of the forepaws. The strength they manifested in lashing with the tail to get free was remarkable. Toward spring, when the days were warmer, their house was set out of doors one day in a severe rainstorm. Instead of liking the downpour, they were frightened thoroughly, and made every effort to leap out of their cage.

"In summer a pen was arranged in the open air on much the same plan as the deal table, where they flourished so mightily that one night they succeeded in getting out and running away forever."

HOW TO CLEAN BUCKLES.

Steel buckles should not be worn at the seaside. They are extremely susceptible to damp and easily rust. To remove rust, buy a little crocus powder and mix turpentine with it until it forms a fine paste. Rub this well on the steel and allow it to dry on. Then remove the powder by means of a brush, and polish with a leather. If the rust has eaten deeply in apply a mixture of tripoli with half its quantity of powdered sulphur. Mix and apply with a soft rag; brush off and polish with a dust of dry whitening. If almost hopelessly rusty, soak the ornament in strong vinegar for a few hours. Then wipe it dry, rub it with sweet oil and emery powder, and polish with crocus powder on a leather.

NOVEL INSURANCE SUIT.

A novel damage suit against a large insurance company has been brought by Mrs. S. Gurney Lapham, a prominent club woman of Syracuse. Mrs. Lapham charges the company with circulating, for advertising purposes, a folder composed of matter she submitted to them, which they rejected. The article was printed later, and the company has adopted it for advertising purposes, stating that it originated in their own "literary bureau." Mrs. Lapham claims that their use of the article is plagiarism, violation of journalistic etiquette, and false pretenses. She is a well-known contributor to insurance journals and magazines, and says her articles have a recognized financial value. The suit will be tried in Onondaga County early in the fall.

PHOTOGRAPH FRAME DESIGN.

The pattern for a photograph frame of conventionalized forget-me-nots is effective when painted or embroidered on old pink silk or denim, the scrolls in dark blue, the flowers in shaded blue and the strings or lines in white. The design might be carried out in three shades of blue, the straight lines drawn in silver, using white linen as a covering for the cardboard frame.

FRAME FOR EMBROIDERY OR PAINTING.