

# WOMAN

## BOOK ILLUMINATIONS AND ORNAMENTATION ON WOOD

### A Genuine Revival of the Old Monkish Art Which Has Preserved Faithful Records of Life in the Middle Ages--Local Illuminators.

Illuminated manuscripts are a costly legacy. Some of them were wrought in the deep recesses of the catacombs as an expression of the piety for which the workers had been driven from the light of day.

Again, religious devotees, and they were many, pursued their work in small rooms or cells as scriptoria which in most monasteries were set apart for such labor, and what is recorded of Lewis, a Bavarian monk, might be recorded of most of his craft: "Whilst he wrote he froze and that which by daylight he could not bring to perfection he worked at again by moonlight."

The miniatures of the old manuscripts were long considered as ornaments only. Intended only to enhance the beauty of the work, it has been reserved for men of the last seventy years to find a deeper meaning and a greater value in them, especially those produced in the middle ages.

The calligraphic artists of those days were religious devotees or other men of great simplicity of nature. As ornaments of their writings they copied objects immediately before their eyes, thus imparted to their compositions, whatever may have been the subjects, a local or contemporaneous color. The consequence is that in their little pictures are



ILLUMINATED WALL PANEL, BY MISS KRUGER.

found the costumes, arms, utensils, furniture and even the customs and ceremonies, both civil and religious, of their generation. Often the portrait of the person for whom the manuscript was intended formed its frontispiece. These miniature ornaments therefore give us a pictorial history of mediaeval times. And it is a record of inestimable value, for it is not only faithful and comprehensive but it is all that has been preserved to us of the dark ages.



ILLUMINATED QUATRINS FROM THE RUBAIYAT BY MISS HEISSER.

pets and the pages of books and newspapers, and when he displays his achievements in illuminating to the world, saying, "I never studied, my work is due to native genius," he deceives himself and the truth is not in him.

One says, "I would be original. If I study the old illuminators I shall receive suggestions from them, and it may be unconsciously imitate them and lose my individuality."

I answer, "If we were savages brought up in the wilds and were led to produce something, though it might be grotesque, it would doubtless be original, but as it is, we have been receiving suggestions all our lives and, if we start on trusting to their text, the result is legitimate art to help us to originality, we shall doubtless fall of being original, while we are in great danger of making ourselves, through our longed-for individuality, ridiculous."

In the palmy days of illumination there were two classes of artists employed in the work. The miniature painters or illuminators made the paintings, the borders, and the arabesques; they laid on the gold also. The second class were the calligraphers, who wrote the whole of the work and drew the initial letters in color with fanciful ornamentation.



This elegant costume of vertically tucked white broadcloth, illustrated the fashionable curiass waist.

with the sentiment. It was in this leisurely way, making the accomplishment of a single task the work of months, perhaps of years, that the old monks wrought in mediaeval times.

Miss Pauline Kruger is a decorative artist of Minneapolis who also does work in illuminating. "Victorian Sonnets," by a northwestern writer, was illuminated by her and sent as a tribute to Queen Victoria during the late jubilee. The badge presented by the citizens of Minneapolis to President McKinley on the occasion of his visit to Minneapolis in 1895 was also made by Miss Kruger. This young artist has poetic fancy and a correct sense of color. She evinces, too, in her later work, less impatience in the very important part of perfecting technical details. Her increased care in lettering and the minutiae of technique joined to her creative ability should ensure for her a successful career.

## TROUBLES OF FLOWER FARMERS

### Mrs. Eves and Miss Simmons Have Found This Season Very Hard on Sweet Peas--Both Will Try Other Crops.

A sweet pea farm has been no sinecure during the warm weather and the rapidly with which the vines dry up has caused consternation among the farmers. This has not been a good year for sweet peas. The early spring was too dry, the early summer was too wet, and the past two weeks far too warm. The sweet pea farmers are kept on the ragged edge of un-

The inside of the chest was stained orange and was highly polished. The result was admirable.

A folding screen by Miss Heisser shows good work in frame and panels and an attractive and unique color scheme.

Warm weather shortens the stems of the flowers and hurts their marketable value, for no one wants sweet peas with stems an inch long. Miss Echo Simmons seems to be able to keep the stems of her blossoms long enough to sell them, to the



IN A SWEET PEA GARDEN.

wonder and envy of the other sweet pea farmers. The hot winds have affected her vines, however, and she has had to cut down 1,200 feet of plants which were burned out. Just at present she is holding her breath for fear of red ants. They also, are a result of warm weather and they are a plague for which the farmer can do little. Earlier in the season the plants were infested by a tiny parasite which except under the leaves. To free the vines it was necessary to spray them twice a

week with a certain preparation, and work as fast as she could. Miss Simmons was able to go over her field only once a week. People who raise sweet peas for themselves and have ten or twelve feet of vines have little conception of the labor and anxiety an acre of them will cause.

Miss Simmons has just about decided to abandon sweet peas and raise sweet corn. She is trying the corn on a small scale this summer and has found it much easier to take care of than the flowers. She will always have some sweet peas, however, for she loves the flowers and will continue to raise enough for herself and her friends.

All of her time is not devoted to floriculture and in the fall she will enter the medical department of the university. She has always been interested in medicine and has dreams of making a specialty of consumption. With medicine in the winter and flowers and sweet corn in the summer she will be a very busy young woman.

The sweet pea farmer has other troubles than blight, and her pickers and sellers can make or mar her business. Miss Simmons has regular pickers, that is boys and girls who will pick sweet peas when they do not want to go to a picnic or fishing. The uncertainty of their presence is trying and the uneven way in which even the best of them pick the flowers is also conducive to a discouraged feeling on the part of the farmer.

"It really seems as though young people were not observing," said Miss Simmons. "They will tell me there are no blossoms without buds on the vines and ask if they may pick the stems bearing both buds and flowers. At the same time I can go into the field and find any number of stems bearing only full blown blossoms."

If the sweet peas are not plucked when full blown they fade and are a loss to the grower so that it is quite important that they should be gathered at the right time. There are any number of varieties in the field and some of them do not mind the warm weather and send out their flowers large and well colored in defiance of the scorching rays of the sun. Others droop beneath the heat and still others lose their delicate color. The red flowers, which are so popular, are among the latter, and they are not as popular with the growers as with the buyers.

This summer Miss Simmons has sold her flowers to several of the florists as well as at home and on the street. She has many amusing experiences with her boys and is learning considerable about boy nature. Her sellers are nearly always Jews and she cannot find adjectives enough in which to express her admiration of the Jewish character. The boys are expected to keep the flowers in good condition and if any bunches are brought home spoiled the seller must pay for them. This is to encour-

age honesty and carefulness and the boys regard their young employer as very honorable and kind.

Miss Simmons planted sweet peas in many private gardens this spring and gave careful direction how they should be cared for. But planting seeds for other people to raise is not very satisfactory. People want their seeds planted in certain locations whether the soil and the exposure is right or not. The plot of ground may be half hidden by the shade of trees

## WOMAN REGENT AT UNIVERSITY OF WIS.

### Appointment of Dr. Almah J. Frisby of Milwaukee Marks an Innovation.



DR. ALMAH J. FRISBY, First Woman Regent of the University of Wisconsin. Photo by Klein & Guttenstein, Milwaukee.

The appointment of Dr. Almah J. Frisby on the board of university regents in Wisconsin has met with general approval. It is the first time in the history of the board of regents that a woman has served on it. Miss Frisby, or, rather, Dr. Frisby, has had considerable experience in such matters and has taken to her new duty with the same enthusiasm that has characterized all her work.

Miss Frisby comes of one of the old families of Wisconsin, having been born at West Bend, Washington county, in 1857. She is a daughter of Leander F. Frisby, who was attorney-general under the Rusk administration. She graduated from the West Bend high school, and later

from the school which Miss Wheelock conducted in Milwaukee. She entered the scientific course at the Wisconsin university in 1875, and graduated in 1878 with the degree of B. S., being also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

Dr. Frisby then came to Milwaukee and began the practice of medicine, remaining here from 1883 till 1889. She accepted a position at the University of Wisconsin, and was preceptress and professor of hygiene and sanitary science from 1889 till 1895. She returned to Milwaukee and resumed the practice of medicine, which she has continued to the present time.

and shrubbery, but, if the owner of the plot has made up her mind that she wants her sweet peas planted there, nothing can convince her that the vines will not do well after they are in the ground the attention they receive is apt to be spasmodic. One day they will be half drowned with water and the next two or three they curl their leaves for lack of a drink. To raise sweet peas one must do more than plant the seeds.

Mrs. Eves has grown sweet peas at Milwaukee for six years. She has always been fond of flowers and drifted into raising them for sale in a natural manner. She had more than she could use herself and her grocer told her to send some to the store and he would see if he could sell them for her. The result astonished them both and since that summer she has been raising sweet peas for sale.

She furnishes Donaldson's with flowers and at first began by sending up twenty-five bunches. Last summer in one day she sold 8,000 flowers. In addition to sending blossoms to Donaldson's she furnishes several of the other florists with sweet peas and used to have a boy on the street. The latter was not to be depended on and she discontinued street selling.

Mrs. Eves and her family take entire care of the vines unless there is a rush of flowers and extra pickers are needed. She is up in the morning as soon as she can distinguish white from black and is out among the vines plucking the white flowers. As it grows lighter she culls the colored varieties and very little pick-

ing is done during the heat of the day. Raising sweet peas keeps Mrs. Eves occupied the greater part of her year. After the frost comes and the blossoming season is over preparations are begun for next season's vines and the ground is made ready. This takes until the soil is frozen too hard to be worked with, and from then until the first of January, when the seeds are planted in the hot house, in the only time she is free from sweet peas. She plans to plant about 2,500 plants in the hot house and they furnish the early flowers and continue to bloom until the garden vines are producing. The hot house vines are doing much better now, during this warm weather than those raised in the garden. The flowers are larger and more fragrant and the stems are longer.

The rapid changes in the weather and the long dry seasons have discouraged Mrs. Eves and she also talks of abandoning sweet pea culture for some occupation less exciting and more certain. She raises quite a number of gladioli and finds them profitable, but what is true of one flower is equally true of another.

WOMEN'S MAGAZINES FOR AUGUST The feature of the August Ladies' Home Journal, to Minneapolis readers, is an article by W. S. Harwood on "The First White Baby in the Northwest." Mrs. Charlotte O. Van Ede, Ida Shaper Hoxie writes of "The Singing Village in Germany" and Marchesa Theodoli of "What Child Like in Italy Means." Mary Louise Graham presents her idea of an ideal boarding school for girls and there are three excellent stories besides the series. Each page makes its special appeal to the reader, and there is a collection of superb views of the Engadine valley and a series of prize pictures. There are fashions for the college girl's wardrobe and helpful suggestions for the different members of the household. The cover page represents a brilliant scene at Atlantic City and is by Alice Barber Stevens.

The Women's Home Companion for August is a fiction number and there is a round half dozen of good stories contributed by Brander Matthews, Elizabeth O. Cuyper, Katherine Holland Brown, Minnie Thomas Boyce and Frederick M. Smith. The Japanese story by the Japanese writer, Ootoko Watanna, is concluded. Bertha Dumas Knapp writes of the famous Lady Warwick school for women farmers and there is a description of the Waller fisheries on the Potomac river, which are managed by a woman. Several famous pictures are reproduced and a double page shows beach life at the popular American summer resorts. It is an excellent warm weather number, with several pages devoted to timely aid in the kitchen and the home.

William Dean Howells writes of the heroine of "The Initials" in the Harper's Bazaar for August. The paper is one of a series on "Heroines of Fiction" which has attracted much attention. E. Nesbit contributes one of the attractive stories of "The Wobblenoods" and the installment of "Bagby's Daughter" leaves the bride couple in a most awkward situation. There are suggestions for gowns for every occasion and the culinary hints contain many new dishes. Dr. John K. Mitchell continues his series of articles on "Self Help for Nervous Women," and the editorial comment is full of bits of information. The Bazaar grows more interesting each month.

## TRAVELING MUSEUMS.

Traveling museums as aids to lessons in geography will be a feature in the Chicago public schools. To carry out the plan the Chicago bureau of geography is to be incorporated, so that it may receive gifts showing the characteristics of the several states. Already specimens for exhibition valued at \$2,000 have been contributed, including illustrated sheets and specimens from the mining regions and the cotton fields. The bureau will issue a geographical journal every month showing the work done in the schools to advance the knowledge of geography. It will collect books and magazines such as would be useful in teaching the study. The cost of the plan for the first three months will be met by the Academy of Sciences in Chicago, and it is hoped to get the favor of the board of education for the continuance of the system.