

# Now It Is the Vogue of the Easter Bonnet

Flowers Are the Favorite Trimming for the Pretty Spring Hats.

THE DAY of the Easter bonnet draweth nigh, and anticipatory of its coming the shops are filling rapidly with beautiful models of spring millinery. There is a beauty suggestive of spring, not only because of the light airiness that is the more noticeable after our season of furs and velvets and heavy cloths, but also because of the reigning penchant for flowers. The Easter hats are veritable flower gardens. Some of them are composed almost entirely of flowers and leaves, and those of other materials are liberally decorated with flowers.

We have chrysanthemum shows, and style golden-rod as the national flower, but when we wish something dainty for our hats we take to neither of these, but to that flower of all flowers, the rose, and it is the rose that leads in point of popularity as a trimming for spring hats. Easter Sunday will see half the new hats worn on that occasion trimmed with roses, and roses in their natural colors at that. It is only the woman who seeks the unusual and the odd as a means of attracting attention who will bedeck her Easter hat with blue or green or other unnaturally colored roses.

Fruit blossoms will follow closely the lead of roses as hat trimmings for

summer. Eerie lace hats are another variety which is also worn, pink roses and brown velvet ribbon being a pretty finish.

Pearls and pearl ornaments, especially in the round flat shapes, are to be the thing. Leaves are decorated with pearls, festoons of pearls are used over the hat brims at one side, lace nets are dotted with pearls, and it is to be more than evident that pearls are to be one of the distinctive features of millinery. The white hat straw and tulle is charming with the pearl ornaments.

To go back again for a moment to the shapes of the spring hats, we will find that anything that can give a military tone to the costume will be greatly in favor. In this way we are going back to the days of 1898, when the war with Spain made the soldier boy a general favorite with the fair sex, who paid him homage in copying so far as possible his uniform. For this reason the tricorne hat will be favored by many. It has a flower brim and a large bow at the back; it is wonderfully chic and most becoming to many faces. It is not new, of course, but it admits of various changes to suit the materials of which it is made and the head it adorns, yet in outline at least it is very familiar.

The cavalier toque, which turns up high on one side, is another fancy, and



FOUR FAVORITE STYLES IN SPRING MILLINERY.

spring wear. Of these the apple and cherry are especial favorites, and in addition to these there are camellias, primroses, gardenias and a great amount of beautiful foliage with all the fresh greenness of the spring lawns and shrubbery.

Never was there a greater degree of perfection in artificial flowers than those prepared for this spring display of attractive millinery. The dainty chiffon blossoms are by far the most attractive of all, and their artistic beauty surpasses anything that is easily imagined.

In shape the prevailing style of the Easter millinery is flat and broad, with an arrangement of ends of some kind at the back. In fact every bit of trimming is arranged with this latter effect in view.

Of materials straw of course leads, and they offer many new ideas. One of them, for example, resembles the petals of a chrysanthemum. Tulle is another favorite material both for entire hats, and as a combination material with the lace varieties of straw which are drawn through the openings in dainty puffs to soften the effect. A number of toques are seen of tulle, and these are especially charming. This is true particularly of the black ones in which the tucks are stitched in with white and very simply trimmed with a wreath of small blossoms on the brim. Another vogue for the use of tulle is to have it dotted over with ivory discs and jet spangles, with marabout pompons tipped with jet for the decoration at one side.

Another form of the spring hat is the one of white lace. Entire hats are made of it, and lace of all descriptions, including malines, chantilly and fine guipure, is used. A white corded face studded with pearls is very effective and you see these hats with only a stylish black velvet ribbon bow for trimming, to which a few La France roses are sometimes effectively added.

White hats are the particular cry for genuine elegance just at the moment and it is promised that their popularity shall continue throughout the

shepherdess shape is here again in pretty yellow and white silk braids trimmed with gorgeous roses. Tuscan straws and Italian chips, soft and pliable, with a new gloss which gives them the appearance of silk, show plaid designs in the plaiting.

The pompadour hat, with the brim caught up on one side with a rosette bunch of roses, bids fair to be popular. Modifications of the old-time styles in headgear are a feature this season without doubt, but they are so artistically done, so much prettier in outline and embellishment than their predecessors, that it is only the suggestion of the original which is revealed to you. It is indeed the picturesque style of dress which is to be presented to us this coming season.

### The Baby and the Monkey.

Babies are very like little monkeys, and we are least human when we are youngest, writes E. S. Martin in Harper's. But by way of solace, and to save our self-conceit if that has suffered, they assure us that whereas the little monkeys grow less and less like humans every hour they grow, our babies turn their backs on the monkey type at the first squirm, and grow away from it hand over fist during the whole of their protracted period of development. The monkey child's strength runs to jaw and to length of limb, and to agility and monkey ways. The human child's nose asserts itself, his brain grows and grows, and insists on having room to expand in, and his skull takes shape accordingly. He finds his legs, and gradually puts them to use, though in some children strength comes to the legs very slowly. The learned doctors assure us, too, that the period of upward development in which the child grows more human all the time, and keeps putting distance between himself and the monkeys, is in infancy and early youth, and that presently upward evolution stops, and development becomes "an adaptation to the environment without regard to upward zoological movement."

## CONGRESS IS CLOSE.

Very Rarely Makes Appropriations for War Claims.

Just and Unjust Suffer Alike—Famous King Case, Although Approved by Court of Claims, Still Hangs Fire.

[Special Washington Letter.]

ALMOST 2,000 bills have been introduced and referred to my committee," says congressman Thad Mahon, of Chambersburg, Pa. Mr. Mahon is chairman of the committee on war claims, which is regarded as one of the most important committees of the national house of representatives.

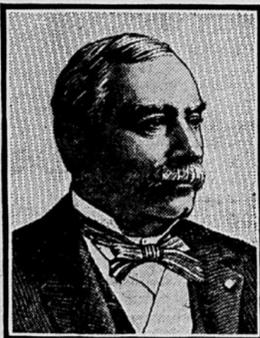
"You see there are claimants from every state in this republic," continued the congressman. "Each claimant has a bill prepared covering his case and providing for an appropriation from the federal treasury. There was a time when these bills received more prompt consideration than they do now. The bills are introduced by the various congressmen, not because they expect to secure their passage; but in order to satisfy the claimants. If the congressmen were to refuse to introduce such bills, the claimants and all of their friends would be down on that man, and be busy pushing forward some one else for congress. But, although a representative thus introduces a bill, he takes no further interest in it. In the first place nearly all of these war claims originated before some congressmen were born, or while others were in their cradles. The congressmen are interested in matters more modern.

"It may surprise you, but it is a fact, that several hundred bills making claims against the government have originated since and out of the war with Spain. Small and brief as that war was it gave opportunity to quite a number of people to entertain grievances of some sort against the government, and it will be the duty of this committee to examine into the merits and demerits of all of those claims. The older claims do not require so much attention. We are familiar with them. Reports have been prepared and reprinted year after year for so many years that the older members know them all by heart."

"Some years ago, before I became chairman of this committee, a claimant received \$63,000 for ice water. It was made to appear to the committee and to the house that the claimant had furnished quite a large consignment of ice to the quartermaster at Jefferson barracks, at St. Louis, Mo.; that the quartermaster did not take the ice from the barges until it had almost melted. This was in July, 1863. The claimant made out what seemed to be a good case, and the bill was passed; but it has always been called the ice water bill.

"One bill, covering a thousand or more items, introduced by Mr. Gibson, has been favorably reported. It is entitled: 'A bill for the allowance of certain claims for property taken for military purposes within the United States during the war with Spain.' That bill will undoubtedly receive consideration. It embodies the most meritorious of all of the bills introduced covering that small war period, and is divided into claims by states. For example, in this one bill there are seven claims from Alabama, and their aggregate is only \$5,108. There is one claim from Delaware amounting to \$635. Georgia comes forward with 36 claims, aggregating \$11,397. Pennsylvanians claim a great deal, there being 51 claims in this one bill, the aggregate being \$22,620."

George Fry, clerk of the committee, called attention to the bill No. 8587,



HON. THAD M. MAHON. (Chairman of the House Committee on War Claims.)

making provision for the payment of claims under what is known as the Bowman act, of 1883. This bill is an omnibus bill, like the Spanish war claims bill. The proposed beneficiaries of this bill are all residents of the southern states, and their claims against the government are for damages alleged to have been committed by federal soldiers during the civil war. Some of these claims were brought to the attention of the congress immediately after the close of that war, but a majority of them were filed within the past 25 years.

Opposed to this Bowman act claims bill is the bill making provision for reimbursement to the people of Chambersburg, Gettysburg and contiguous places, for damages sustained when Lee with his army of confederates invaded Pennsylvania in June and July, 1863. The southern congressmen for years have opposed this bill for the benefit of the Pennsylvanians, claiming that their southern claimants are as much entitled to consideration as the northern claimants. It thus happens that the money undoubtedly due

to many of the claimants of the south, and to all of the Pennsylvania claimants, remains unappropriated, year after year, because of their antagonisms. As a matter of fact, however, the southern men have no right to make their fight against the Pennsylvania claimants, because all of the Pennsylvania congressmen are ready to allow the southern claims to be paid; but there are numerous other congressmen from northern states who oppose the payments of the claims of the southern people. Thus, while the Pennsylvanians are willing to be fair, the southern men are unfairly attacking them, in order to force consideration of the claims under the Bowman act. It would take upwards of \$2,000,000 to pay all of the claims set forth in these two bills, for the Pennsylvanians and the southerners, and all of the just claims ought to be



MRS. FRANCES KING. (A Victim of the Parsimoniousness of Congress.)

paid. They have been favorably reported from the court of claims. But it seems most likely that they will never be paid. If the government were an ordinary debtor, honest indebtedness could be collected in the courts. But no one claimant is big enough to prosecute the government.

As an example of a favorable report on an individual bill of this character the committee clerk handed the writer a report on bill No. 2944, which says: "The committee on war claims to whom was referred this bill for the relief of Frances King, beg leave to submit the following report and recommend that the said bill do pass." The report then goes on to show that the committee on war claims, of a former congress, not being fully and clearly advised of the facts in said claim, referred the same to the court of claims for a finding of facts. The claim has been returned to this committee with the following finding of fact:

"(Court of Claims, Congressional No. 7229, Henry King, v. U. S.)

"This case, being a claim for supplies or stores alleged to have been taken by or furnished to the military forces of the United States for their use during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, the court, on a preliminary inquiry, finds that the said Henry King, the person alleged to have furnished such supplies and stores, or from whom the same are alleged to have been taken, was loyal to the government of the United States throughout said war."

"(Court of Claims, Congressional No. 7229, Frances King, Widow of Henry King, deceased, v. the United States.)

"Statement of Case. "The claim in the above entitled case, for supplies or for stores alleged to have been taken by or furnished to the military forces of the United States for their use during the war for the suppression of the rebellion, was transmitted to the court, by the committee on war claims of the house of representatives on the 24th day of January, 1899.

"The court, on March 27, 1899, found that the person from whom supplies were taken, was loyal throughout the war. The case was brought to a hearing on its merits, on the 6th day of May, 1897. George A. King appeared for the claimant, Felix Brantigan, assistant attorney general, for the defense and protection of the interests of the United States."

Note first, that three years elapsed after the claim was referred to the court of claims, before it was found that the claimant had been loyal throughout the war. Loyalty must always be established first in such claims. Three years elapsed, the claimant being aged and growing older and feeble. Loyalty having been at last established four years more elapsed before "the case was brought to a hearing on its merits." In the meantime the claimant died. The law's delays were too much for him, so he sleeps with his fathers, and his aged widow is still prosecuting the claim.

Three years after the court gave the case a hearing on its merits the report was transmitted to congress, on January 13, 1900, that the claim is a just one. Meantime ten years had elapsed since the bill was first introduced. And now, two more years have gone, since the court of claims reported that the claim was an honest one; but the widow has small chance of living long enough to secure the money due her.

And how many millions of dollars, or how many hundreds of thousands do you suppose that this claimant is struggling for; the great government resisting her at every step? You will undoubtedly be surprised to learn that it is only \$395 that the government is unjustly withholding. Here is the official findings of fact, by the court of claims:

"There were taken from the claimant's decedent in McNairy and Hardin counties, state of Tennessee, during the war of the rebellion by the military forces of the United States for the use of the army, stores and supplies as described, which, at the time and place of taking, were reasonably worth the sum of three hundred and ninety-five dollars (\$395). It does not appear that any payment has been made for any part thereof."

Your Uncle Sam has owed that money for 40 years, has not paid, and will not pay it. How would you like to have such a debtor?

SMITH D. FRY.

## LATE MICROBE LORE.

Bacteria Are Now Said to Be of Vegetable Growth.

European Scientists Declare That a Person's Character May Be Determined by the Acuteness of the Sense of Smell.

[Special New York Letter.] THE time is long since past when anyone would say: "Oh, I do not believe in microbes;" also when people were frantic when they touched the strap of a street car without gloves for fear of infection from contact with the small plaques. Everybody has settled down to the knowledge that the microbe is with us, as he has always been, and—to stay, also that we are seldom injured by contact with the minute organisms. Our own comfort in the consciousness of their constant companionship is that the tribe on the whole does much more good than harm. Some varieties are never hostile to health and even those considered most deadly have their uses, if their activity is not directed into wrong channels.

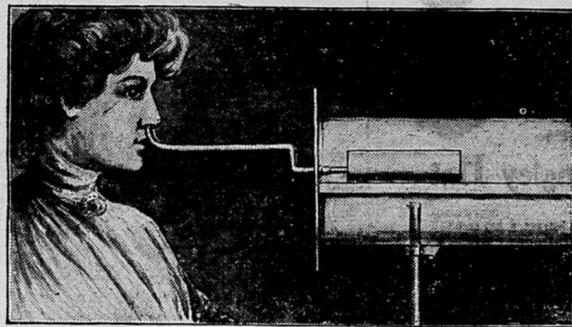
Bacteria absorb their food through their outer surface, thus furnishing incontrovertible evidence that they are vegetable growths. Again, the vegetable microbes, or bacteria, may be distinguished from Protozoa by their method of reproduction. This takes place through budding or splitting, like some plants of a low order, the Algae. They have no sex. At a certain period of their growth they become elongated to nearly twice their normal length, a contraction across the body, midway between the two ends, occurs and increases until a separation takes place, when we have two distinct bacteria instead of one. This process is quickly duplicated in each of the two and is so rapid that it is easily observable through a microscope. Starting with one organism, millions may come into existence within twenty-four hours. This accounts for the quick rise of temperature usually observable in fever patients.

Ordinarily, bacteria attack only tissues already diseased, because of the law of destruction to all decaying substances in order that they may be absorbed by healthy structures. The

bacilli or rod-shaped coccil, or spherical and vibrio, or corkscrew-shaped. Extremes of heat and cold which would kill a man are as nothing to them. Only sudden changes of temperature seem to affect them. If water is to be sterilized, it must be brought to the boiling point and kept there for at least fifteen minutes. Even then the spores or germ centers are not destroyed. After an hour, during which time they have had a chance to develop, the water should again be boiled for the same length of time, when it is probable that no microbe will be left alive in it. Filtering is a popular method of disinfecting drinking water because it may be accomplished quickly and with little trouble, but this process is attended with danger, for at a certain stage the pores of the filter are apt to become clogged with germs which press through the water, rendering it much more unfit for use than when placed in the filter. To be reliable a filter should be made of powdered cleerec, sponged iron or carbonized bone and a microscopic examination of the water be made frequently to ascertain whether the apparatus works properly. It has been proven that, as a rule, spring water upon its first appearance at the surface is perfectly pure. The few exceptions to this rule are found when the water has passed through infected ground. Pure water when brought in contact with the air is almost immediately fructified by some form of bacterial life.

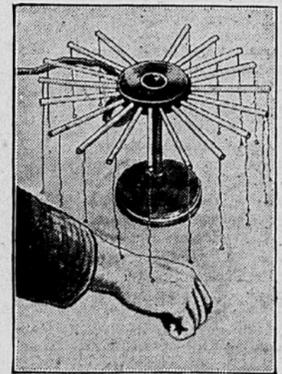
Often, however, water below the surface becomes infected from some drain or pool where disease germs have found lodgment. In many instances the devastation wrought in whole communities by typhoid or diphtheria have been traced to such sources. Those who have a keen sense of smell are often warned of the presence of hostile germs.

A curious discovery is said to have been made that a person's character may, to a certain extent, be determined by the acuteness of his sense of smell, and, indeed, that this forms a surer test than phrenology, physiognomy or any of the ordinary methods of character reading. An instrument, the olfactometer, has been constructed which measures the sense of smell. Upon a rod is mounted a screen of odorless metal which is pierced in the center by two horizontal inhaling tubes, the ends of which, projecting in front, fit into



NEW WAY OF TESTING THE OLFACTORY NERVES.

body should be kept in as perfect condition as possible in order to exclude them. To germs we are indebted for the destruction of the quantities of dead material, both animal and vegetable, which would otherwise be distributed over the surface of the earth. This is the proper mission of some of them and while confined to it they are among man's greatest benefactors. That their increase may be retarded, artificial means should be employed for the destruction of waste material upon which they thrive and which is the reason of their being. It has been found very difficult to designate with accuracy the line between Sapogena, or those germs generally regarded as harmless and the Pathogena, or disease producing germs. The former are supposed to obtain their sustenance entirely from dead and decaying substances, while the latter, man's



TESTING SENSE OF TOUCH.

deadliest foes, feed on diseased living tissue.

It is said that diphtheria germs are sometimes found in the throat of perfectly healthy persons, a long time after their exposure to the disease without having caused any disagreeable symptoms. The origin of bacteria has not yet been satisfactorily determined, although years of patient labor have been given to the question. The old theory generally accepted that bacteria were of spontaneous growth has been proven fallacious by Pasteur, who showed conclusively that life has always sprung from life and that these organisms are generated from those of their own kind. The theory that life was brought to our planet from some other contributes nothing toward the real solution of the original problem. There are three general divisions of bacteria, the

the nostrils of the person being tested. The opposite ends are graduated into divisions of five millimeters each. Hollow cylinders filled with some odor of known quantity and strength slide over them. The odor is more plainly discernible the further the cylinder is drawn toward the back of the instrument. At the first mark, the inhaled air has passed through five millimeters of perfumed surface before entering the nose. At the next mark, through ten millimeters, and so on. Thus one is enabled to easily determine the keenness of a person's olfactory nerves without much difficulty. It is possible to place different scents in each cylinder thus enabling the subject to inhale two distinct odors at the same time. These usually destroy each other and no sensation is experienced. The same is true in the outer atmosphere. We could hardly endure the air around us at times if different scents did not neutralize each other. Objects especially inimical to health have often an odor which overbears all others and thus give us warning of their presence.

Degenerates are said to possess a very limited sense of smell. This in normal persons is three times as acute as in criminals. In thieves, it is dull, in degenerate women much more so. A comparison is also made between people who enjoy the odor of musk and those who prefer violet and other delicate perfumes. The greater portion of our food would be tasteless were we unable to smell it. Degeneracy is further indicated by obtuseness in the sense of touch. The touchometer is a wooden stand, from the circular top of which slender horizontal rods extend. To these are attached small bits of elder felt covered by metal of varying weight. The subject is blindfolded and the weights allowed to touch the hand. The weight of the lightest peth consciously felt determines the subject's acuteness of touch. Psychologists divide this sense into two parts, pressure touch and temperature touch, thus giving a sixth sense. The temperature touch is easily determined by use of a graduated instrument resembling a thermometer, one end of which is immersed in hot water. Dullness of any sense at birth is said to indicate a corresponding lack of moral acuteness. All rules have their exceptions and accident and disease is more often than degeneracy the cause of dullness of the senses. In fact, disease is too often the cause of immorality, and we would do well to study microbes versus morals. EDWARD JULIEN,