

DAME BEAUTY'S PICTURE HAT.



THE NEWEST FAD AMONG SOCIETY GIRLS IS TO POSE BEFORE THE CAMERA IN THESE STRIKING PICTURE HATS.

A PHOTOGRAPH FAD.

YOUNG WOMAN TO LOOK HER PRETTIEST SHOULD POSE IN HAT.

Many Try a Gainsborough—If Mildly Aristocratic, Let Her Don Evening Dress With Her Large Headgear.

(Correspondent of the Dispatch.) NEW YORK, September 25.—Young ladies, would you be both artistic and fashionable? Then have your pictures taken in large hats. This is the latest, positively, the very latest, and it is as fetching as it can be. It is sure to be a popular idea, for what young woman would not favor any legitimate plan that makes her look pretty?

The hat should be of the Gainsborough order or something akin thereto, and this year's styles give one so much latitude that it is entirely possible to comply with the latest demand of the smart set and still look as if one were dressed for some ordinary event, instead of so momentous an occasion as facing the camera. It used to be the way that almost any one who could master the technical knowledge necessary to utilize the sun's rays in picturing a human being was fully equipped as a photographer. No one expected to look well, particularly when their picture was taken, it being considered amply efficient if the resemblance to one's features was fairly excellent.

But nowadays it is altogether different. The photographer must not only be an artist so far as the appearance of the word on his sign is concerned, but he must also be a bona fide affair, capable of posing, and, if necessary, causing his sitters to alter the arrangement of hair or apparel, in order that the very best result be secured. It is the advent of persons capable of these things into photography that has brought about matters like this new fad, for none but a photographer and a born artist would have ever conceived so quaint and charming a thought as this one is proving to be. One has no idea of the unsuspected beauties which may be developed in a very plain young woman by the use of what has come to be known as the picture hat. The trouble often is with a feminine whom Nature has given ample proportions, both of face and body, that she insists upon wearing a small hat, close brim, and of shape altogether about as fitted to her particular style of humanity as green and blue are to form a fetching combination.

Now comes the artistic photographer. The young woman goes to him to have her likeness immortalized, and mourns the fact that she "never looks well in pictures." The sharp-eyed artist needs no observation-glass to discern the reason. The young lady has said she wishes to be "taken with her hat on." Ye gods, what a hat! This is really the new hat comes in if the artist is really clever. He tells the sitter that the very latest way to have one's picture taken is to pose in as large a hat as one can comfortably appear in. It takes. The large hat is secured, and when the young woman sees the proofs of her pictures she declares that the photographer is a "dear," and is the only man who ever succeeded in taking a picture of her that resembled her in the least. Victory for the new fad.

The facts in the case have only just come out, so far as the general adoption of the idea is concerned. We have heard rumors of the popularity of the plan for some time, but the butterfly of beauty has only just emerged from its chrysalis so far as the public is concerned, and now we may look for a lively fight thereof among the flower of the feminine population.

Another fact which contributes somewhat to the popularity of the combination of beauty and photography is that the best artists of to-day are those who can best pose their patrons. Posing is as much a gift as painting. There are many photographers who have eyes that are artistic enough, goodness knows, but their pictures are always stiff. There is something that makes the observer always think: "What is there about that picture that gives you such an unfavorable impression? It is pretty, and yet it is ugly as well."

Dame Rumor has it that it is to a new woman that the development of the picture hat fad is due. The lady is Miss Alice Hughes, a young American who went to London, England, a year or two ago, with the idea that one in every three would find a better field for a new idea she had than the United States offered. That idea was to pay special attention to posing, make every sitter to appear in the photograph as if she was taken from a painting. The result was delight-

ful, and fortune smiled on Miss Hughes at once. The development of the idea naturally created new methods, and the picture hat is one of the most charming of them all. It took, it will be seen, an American girl to teach the artistic Old World what the most artistic of one of the greatest of arts really is.

Sometimes the person who sits for a photograph will take a notion that instead of a painting they would like to appear as if the central object of an engraving. Modern photographic methods make this easy of accomplishment, and as we look at one of these pictures it seems as if the friend whom it represents had suddenly been exalted to that ambitious height reserved for those who have won the attention of fame.

And now, if the young woman, whether of the Four Hundred or the Sixty Million, wishes to appear to be in touch with all that is fashionable, she should have herself photographed in a big hat, evening gown, and so posed that it will appear as if she might have just stepped out of one of those most charming of paintings which we know as Gainsborough and the flower of the artistic genius of Sir Joshua Reynolds.

One of the funniest things possible is to take some old album and see how people used to dress when photography first came into vogue. You will come across in any old book photographs of dandies in ruffling shirts and huge crinolines, apparently pacing the sands of the seashore. Unluckily, it never used to occur to the photographic artist of that day to blend in the slightest degree the colors of his sitters with the sun's rays in picturing a human being was fully equipped as a photographer. No one expected to look well, particularly when their picture was taken, it being considered amply efficient if the resemblance to one's features was fairly excellent.

But nowadays it is altogether different. The photographer must not only be an artist so far as the appearance of the word on his sign is concerned, but he must also be a bona fide affair, capable of posing, and, if necessary, causing his sitters to alter the arrangement of hair or apparel, in order that the very best result be secured. It is the advent of persons capable of these things into photography that has brought about matters like this new fad, for none but a photographer and a born artist would have ever conceived so quaint and charming a thought as this one is proving to be.

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HAIL LARGE AS EGGS.

STONES OF THIS PHENOMENAL SIZE AND WEIGHT WERE FOUND AT MANASSAS, VA.

OF GREAT INTEREST TO SCIENCE.

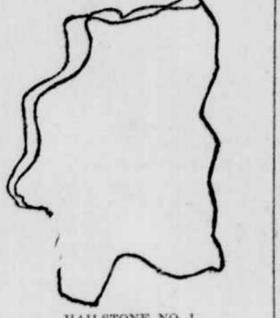
Prof. Charles H. Winston, of Richmond College, Personally Examined Them and Writes Interestingly and Instructively of Them.

The following article, on "Remarkable Hailstones," was prepared by me for "Science," and published by that journal in its issue of September 17th.

I sent it first to "Science," as the subject seemed to me to have some scientific importance. But as it has also a popular interest, I should be pleased to have it appear also in the Dispatch, so that it may have a wider circulation, especially in that section of our State in which the remarkable storm occurred.

I am anxious to obtain in this way, and to put on record, other accounts of this fall of hail, which, though truly phenomenal and unequalled, I think, in some respects, by any similar fall in our State within recent years, seems not to have received any notice whatever from the local press. Following is the article from "Science":

REMARKABLE HAILSTONES. About 5 o'clock in the afternoon of August 19th I was at Manassas Depot, in Prince William county, Va., near the famous battle-field, waiting for a train. There was some pretty severe thunder and lightning for a half hour or so, and



HAILSTONE NO. 1.

then came a heavy shower of rain, during which there was the most remarkable fall of hail I have ever witnessed. I hurried out in the rain to examine the stones, and picked up several. These were nearly square, flatish blocks, say from 3/4 to 1 inch in length and breadth, and from 1/4 to 1/2 an inch in thickness. They suggested, by both shape and size, the ordinary "chocolate caramels" of the confectioner. There were some eight or ten persons, I think, in the station-house with me, and several of these, observing my interest and enthusiasm, began to pick up the larger stones and bring them in to me and to my friend, Professor G. Raymond Ratcliffe, who was also present. Larger ones were thus collected, and I sought for means of measuring or weighing them. No rule or scales could be found, and so we set ourselves, several of us, conjointly and carefully to estimate the dimensions. I recorded at the time on a slip of paper, honestly estimated, "2 inches long, 1 1/2 inches wide, and 3/4 of an inch thick," these being rather the average than the extreme dimensions. It then occurred to me to make an outline drawing of the largest by laying it flat upon a page of my pocket memorandum book, and to trace its outline around it. I secured, in this way, a rather rough but fairly accurate outline of the stone, and to my surprise found it including some lines due to a slipping of the block or to a different inclination of the pencil, and are given in the accompanying cuts. The extreme lengths of these will be found to be, respectively, about 2 1/2 and 3 inches; their thicknesses, about 1 1/2 and 2 inches. The thickness of No. 1 was recorded at the time as being by estimate 1 inch; that of No. 2 as being 1 inch. I estimate their volumes as about 1 1/2 cubic inches for No. 1, and nearly 3 cubic inches for No. 2. The drawing of No. 2 was done more hastily, as just in the midst of my train rushed in, and I had to leave. It took my trophy with me, and, with perhaps pardonable enthusiasm, paraded it through the cars, and, exhibiting it to the passengers, asked expressions of opinion from them as to its size, relatively to that of a popular object of comparison, a guinea egg. Perhaps twenty or thirty passengers agreed, without dissent, that it was as large or larger. Some said, "It is as large as a hen's egg." All agreed also, that they had never seen so large a hailstone before. Upon breaking it up, I found a sort of nucleus, of some what less transparent ice at the center, but observed no concentric layers or other marked structure of any kind; it was quite solid and tolerably transparent throughout. Both of these stones were characterized by blunt points or projections, as shown in the figures; and the sides, also, while flat in the main were uneven, with low, rounded elevations and depressions of the same sort, the general thickness being fairly uniform.

I think that perhaps they would have been a yard or two apart as they lay on the ground. I took it likely also that the storm of hail was of brief duration, say 10 or 15 minutes, and that it embraced a very limited area.

It was, perhaps, about over when I took the train, as I infer from the fact that I have seen no account of it in the papers, and I found at the next station, only five dust-particles, that the road was dry and dusty.

I regret exceedingly that no more accurate observations seem to have been

made of what must have been a most notable hail-storm, and I doubtless harbor my own crude and imperfect account in the hope that thereby something further may be elicited in regard to it.

Richmond College, Va., August 25, 1897.

WHAT OTHERS SAY. After the above article was written I prepared a series of questions, intended to bring out some facts and estimates from others who had witnessed what I have attempted to describe. I sent them to my friend, Judge Nicol (who was absent at the time of the storm), asking him to secure answers for me from reliable parties. He kindly did so, and returned me the following paper, in which the answers were courteously given by Mr. John J. Cowling, the telegraph operator at Manassas:

1. Did you notice anything special and peculiar about the clouds or the thunder, &c., before or during the fall of hail? Answer: "I did not."
2. How long do you think the fall of hail continued? Answer: "I think about 25 minutes."
3. If all the stones that fell had re-

mained on the ground, how far apart, on the average, do you think they would have been. I mean near the depot? Answer: "From 10 to 15 feet, I think, would be a fair estimate."
4. What was the extent of the hail-storm in various directions from Manassas, so far as you have been able to learn? Answer: "About five miles north, four miles south, six miles east, and three miles west."
5. Was it, according to your information, more severe, in any respect, elsewhere than at Manassas. If so, where and how? Answer: "It was not."
6. Did you know or hear credibly of any damage to person or thing done by it? Answer: "Very little damage, except to skylights, and I did not know of any."
7. Give an estimate of the size and shape of the largest stone you saw. Answer: "About 2 inches in diameter; irregular in shape."
8. About how many stones of this character did you see? Answer: "About forty."
9. What would be about a fair average size of all the stones that you saw? Answer: "Would average about the size of a guinea-egg."

A GOOSE-EGG IN SIZE. Judge Nicol also obtained for me and enclosed the following notes, in which the size of the stones, or masses of ice, is put yet higher: "I was standing in the bank door and saw a stone fall on the opposite side of the street, which looked to me to be about the size of a goose-egg, and made note of it in the fly-leaf of the ledger I was working on just before I went to the door. Another I brought in and measured it by the cover of an inkstand, which is 2 1/2 inches in diameter, and it being the same size."

"G. RAYMOND RATCLIFFE, Manassas, Va."

WEIGHT AND MEASURE. As there are several references to eggs in these accounts, I have thought it worth while to measure and to weigh a sample of both hen eggs and guinea eggs. I find that an average hen-egg measures (by displacement of water) about 3.2 cubic inches, and weighs about 1.8 ounces, or nearly one ninth of a pound. An average guinea-egg measures 2.2 cubic inches and weighs 1.35 ounces, or about one tenth of a pound. It is rather lighter than an egg, bulk for bulk, in about the proportion of 9 to 11; so that a lump of ice the size of a guinea-egg would weigh about one thirtieth of a pound, or nearly one and a quarter ounce. Such a mass would, in falling, acquire a momentum that would render it a dangerous missile, and I am surprised that no casualties have been reported from them.

ABOUT HAIL IN GENERAL. If I am expected to say anything in "explanation" of hail-stones, in general, and of these abnormal ones, in particular, I fear I shall be wholly disappointing.

The origin of hail and the reasons for the shape and size of the stones, or masses, or blocks of ice, are matters upon which meteorologists are not agreed. A distinction must be made between the "hard snow grains," sometimes called hail, that fall in winter, and hail proper. As to the latter, the following embraces about all that is known of it: 1. It falls only in hot weather, and in daytime, being most severe in tropical countries. 2. It is generally local, embracing only a narrow strip. 3. It generally precedes, rarely, if ever follows, a thunder shower. 4. It usually lasts not more than ten or fifteen minutes. 5. The sizes of the stones, or ice-masses, though often greatly exaggerated, may vary from that of a pea to that of an orange or half brick, or (in tropical countries) even larger. 6. A peculiar, rattling sound often precedes the fall of hail, as if smaller ice masses were striking against each other. 7. The large, irregular masses that fall seem to have been made in this way by smaller lumps violently striking against and by "recoiling" freezing to each other. 8. Just what gives this violent motion to the smaller ice particles (which are probably made by a mass of saturated warm air being suddenly and forcibly thrust into a very cold one) we do not know, but possibly electricity may be concerned. At all events, hail is generally accompanied by strong electrical manifestations. In this uncertainty as to the causes and nature of hail there is need for the accumulation of accurate observations, and we respectfully invite those who have such facts, whether in relation to this phenomenal storm at Manassas or to any other, to send them to me, or to give them to the editor through the columns of the ever-courteous Dispatch.

CHARLES H. WINSTON, Richmond College, Virginia, September 22, 1897.

Lee's Going Back. Civil-service reform in its best and widest sense is seen in President McKinley's request to Consul-General Lee to return to Habana. General Lee is not of the President's political faith, and there are plenty of good Republicans who would like to take his position, but he is a good man in a specially important place, and Mr. McKinley will not consent to his removal, or even accept his resignation under present circumstances.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Under these circumstances the continuance of General Lee even for a few months by President McKinley will be regarded as indicative that his active assertion and defence of American interests are cordially approved by the present administration, and that when his successor comes to be named he will be expected to fulfill his trust in the same spirit.—Philadelphia Press.

General Lee may as well continue at his post in Habana until the end of the war. He won't have long to wait.—Philadelphia North American.

If the administration has prevailed upon General Fitzhugh Lee to continue at his post in Habana, it not he, is to be congratulated. There is neither comfort nor profit, nor much glory in the Habana consulship during the present troublesome times. It involves merely work, and General Lee has done the work well.—Buffalo Express.

The determination of President McKinley to retain the services of General Fitzhugh Lee as Consul-General at Habana indicates that there is to be no radical change in the policy of the United States with respect to Cuba.—Cleveland Leader.

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