

## LADIES' COLUMN.

Dandelions, Buttercups, Jonquils and Daffodils Plucked from an Old-Fashioned Garden.

Simple Styles for the Children, Costumes for Mama and Sister, New Customs in Visiting Cards.

Water Colors—Fashion's Freaks and Fancies—Mixtures Not Admired—A Crocheted Quilt.

## THE REIGN OF YELLOW.

New York Tribune.

Since a great artist has decided that yellow is so becoming to blondes, the most unjustly despised color in its various shades has become extremely fashionable. Long faces safely wear the pure and beautiful dandelion and buttercup shades, and there is a yellow more of a tawny shade for an older complexion. Brunettes of a pronounced type wear the greenish yellow of a lemon blossom, a jonquil or a daffodil, which makes the skin appear a shade or two fairer; there is besides a buff, a dull yellow. The effect of this color is very beautiful when artistically combined with another, and one out of two colors should always be dull and not too pure. Yellow must be the pure tint in whatever combination is chosen, otherwise the result is hideous. Pale yellow of the purest shade has an admirable effect when skillfully arranged with purple, especially if the purple is plush or velvet, and the other is satin. Yellow crepe and silk form an agreeable combination, as one is dull and is flattered by the other, therefore, the shades must be slightly different; with the Jacquemont roses may be worn. The consumer treble or double frills of finest lace or crepe lines and the pretty bias folds of silk or crepe are blessings in disguise for too long of a short neck. Either style is fashionable, still the latter requires extreme caution. The close contrast of red, yellow, blue or pink next to the skin is not always a happy one. There should always be the introduction of some soft, misty tulle, lace or even an edge of white linen to relieve the complexion. Among other extraordinary freaks is that of framing a lady who is rather past middle age in purple and black, making her do penance by being hideous, destroying whatever of fairness or clearness remains in the complexion which may be brightened with a delicate blue and soft yellowish crepe. She should be allowed, excepting by her enemies, to be trimmed or dressed in dismal, cold gray.

## CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

New York Fashion Bazar.

There is nothing prettier for children's dresses than is easily done and inexpensive than feather stitching of a contrasting color, or the heading and fine feather-headings which can now be purchased in white.

Yokes both straight and pointed, plain, tucked, and puffed, will all be used for growing girls; the body gathered or plaited full to the yoke; for an undergarment there is nothing prettier.

Where double is used in a combination, it may trim as a border the square apron front, and the length across the yoke, giving apparent fullness.

The bright, pretty, Scotch gingham mentioned above, will be the favorite material for children; even though high in price, the decision is in favor of them from their splendid washing qualities, and failure to wear out with the rough usage small children especially give them.

Rough checks will be more used for children's blouses, wraps than the striped jersey flannel of last year.

Two shades of brown, or blue and brown, are favorite colors; the blouse has stitched plaita back and front to waist line, and usually confined with a belt of the same. A toque or Bulgarian cap of the same cloth will complete the early spring, school or play dress for youngsters.

Plaited skirts will be used, for the wool suits made of the flannel or serge, while gathered skirts and tucks will be preferred for wash goods.

The colored embroideries for blousing, inserting and other dress trimmings are shown in all widths and colors, and will find ready sale for trimming wash goods; fast colors, and of good material, these pretty trimmings fill a long-felt want. Doubtless with warm weather the gingham dress will again be worn. White waists are easily laundered, and worn with red, blue, pink or buff gingham, the little ones look cool and happy.

Surah silk is low in price and is much used for the Fedora or pelerine, and perhaps a plaiting at the edge of skirts where the dress is of cashmere or delicate style finish where there is a plaiting of surah at the foot is to cut the bottom of skirt in its last points or round as flaps, lined with the surah; the plaiting under and between the points gives a very pretty effect. The scallops may be carried into the edge of yoke, or if a princess with Fedora front, the cashmere sides finished and bound to correspond with the skirt; the tiny standing collar is pretty in very small scallops, overwrought with embroidery silk; cuffs the same.

French gold and polished steel buttons are imported, enameled in Arabian, Persian and Turkish designs to match the rich cashmere effects in dress fabrics, and sapphires, emeralds opals and other precious stones are made in costly buttons, ranging in price from \$2.50 to \$15 a dozen.

Throwing the bridal bouquet is an exciting feature of modern weddings. Before leaving home the bride tosses her bridal flowers into the air, and the maiden who is lucky enough to catch it as it falls will, if the fates know what they are about and conduct things properly, be the next to wed. It is a very pretty custom, but just where it originated no one has been able to tell.

The fashion of mingling a plain fabric with narrow stripes and tiny checks in one costume is noted, but the style, though in mode, is not admirable.

Five o'clock tea aprons, made entirely of white lace, are very fashionably worn over short dresses of surah, simply made.

It is regarded by many as a singular freak of fashion that makes ladies in the lightest and gayest of evening costumes wear black kid gloves.

Fichus of Spanish lace are made over colored surah and are edged with two rows of lace frilling. Around the throat is a full ruche of lace, and loops and ends of ribbon are placed on the shoulders and bust.

Some of the latest polonaises are cut in princess style for evening wear, with the bodice part shaped in a V both front and back, the Vandyke portion, and also the cap-sleeve, embroidered and edged with beads. The front of the skirt reaches quite to the foot of the underskirt, and at the side the polonaise is slashed its entire length, showing the trimmed skirt beneath. In the back the drapery is not draped, but falls in straight folds, one full pleat being arranged at the immediate

center, with plain flat folds at each side. This drapery covers the entire back portion of the skirt, even to the knife-pleated balayage at the foot of the underskirt.

RECEPTION DRESSES.

One of the loveliest reception dresses worn this season was made of apricot satin shot with pink and broadened with pale pink azules. A Venetian point lace bertha draped the pointed bodice, and the skirt opened down the front over a petticoat of dark green velvet embroidered around the bottom with pink pearls. At the sides of the satin skirt were bands of pearl and emerald beads, with leaves of gold and amber beads surrounding the floral design. Another dress was made of pale silver satin trimmed with white marabout over a petticoat of pink velvet. A third toilet was made of violet surah combined with cream white silk etamine embroidered in arabesques of mauve, pale almond and gold color. The surah skirt was killed, with fan pleatings of purple velvet set between the overdresses of etamine in polonaise fashion, fitting the form perfectly over a low underwaist of the surah. The edge of the overdress was finished with an elegant pattern of almond-colored lace. At the back was a wide slash of violet satin, set above the full drapings of the polonaise.

NECK TRIMMINGS.

New York Post.

There are some very charming and graceful neck trimmings just brought out, all kinds of mixtures—tinsel, gold lace, plush, velvet, embroidered gauzes, and muslins—being employed. White lace is much less used than formerly. Beads of various sizes are in great requisition to edge these pretty neck bands, for they are neck bands chiefly and not frills. They may be also used; one row or two, as may be, sometimes the edges and meets at the throat in front. The display of jet-headed collars, such as sailor collars, plastrons and vests, with cuff to match, is uncommonly elegant and varied this winter. And a very popular neck trimming consists of a deep Charles IX collar, which turns back widely a la marine, and are edged all around with a single row of medium-sized jet beads. Searf-ends of beaded net are added in front, these brought down over the chest and fastened at the belt with a jet buckle, or two large jet-headed pins. Another pretty style consists of a V-shaped plastron or ruffled net laid in flat folds from chin to belt, with a wide military collar at the top, made of the net over a silk-covered crinoline foundation and bead-edged. This standing band fastens behind with two strong hooks and eyes, and there are narrow cuff-bands to match, these only two inches and a half in width. More expensive styles are made up over foundations of pale mauve or coquelicot red satin. And there are also solid jet yokes and gaudy cuffs made of the finest French cut jet, to be added to handsome dresses of black satin or faille. Trimmings in this style are extremely rich and effective, but economy has no part in these last mentioned garments, as their cost would merit an entire costume with jet trimmings of the ordinary sort.

CARD ETIQUETTE.

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Still the custom of sending Easter cards still holds good, but has sadly degenerated from its original simplicity and has become quite a tax upon society. Cards this year are so expensive as to be beyond the reach of most people, the lowest price for a really handsome one being somewhere in the neighborhood of \$10.

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## CROCHETED SQUARE FOR QUILT.

Kiva M. Sues.

Morse & Kaley's three-thread knitting cotton No. 8. Steel crocheted hook No. 2. Commence with eight-chain, join round, and work three double crochets in the first stitch, two double crochets in the next stitch, and repeat; there should be twenty, d. c. in all.

Second round—Three d. c. in the center stitch in each corner, and four d. c. along each side of the square, working into the top loops only.

Third round—3 d. c. in the center stitch in each corner, and 4 d. c. along each side of the square.

Fourth round—5 d. c. in the center stitch in the corner, 4 d. c. 5 chain, 4 d. c. and repeat. The 5 chain form a raised tuft, and no double crochets are to be made.

Fifth round—3 d. c. in the center stitch in each corner, and 10 d. d. along each side of the square.

Sixth round—3 d. c. in the center stitch in the corner, 4 d. c. 5 chain, 4 d. c. and repeat.

Seventh round—3 d. c. in the center stitch in each corner, and 14 d. c. along each side of the square. The raised diamond is increased thus until there are 5 tufts or 5 chain along each side of the square, and afterward decreased until only one tuft is left. A plain round follows after each round of tufts, and 2 plain rounds after the last tuft.

Twenty-third round—1 treble in the center stitch at the corner, 1 chain, 1 treble in the same place, 1 chain, 1 treble again in the same place, 1 chain, miss 1 treble along the side of the square and repeat.

Twenty-fourth round—Like 23d.

Twenty-fifth round—3 d. c. in the center stitch in each corner, and plain d. c. along the sides of the square.

Twenty-sixth round—3 d. c. in the center stitch at the corner, 4 d. c. 5 chain (to form tufts) along the side of square, and repeat.

Twenty-seventh round—Like twenty-fifth.

Twenty-eighth round—Like twenty-sixth.

Twenty-ninth round—Like twenty-fifth.

Thirtieth round—Like twenty-third. This completes the square.

Border and fringe for quilt.

This may be crocheted separately and sewed on, beginning with a chain length required.

First row—Plain double crochet.

Second row—Double crochet with a tuft of five chains at interval of every four stitches.

Third row—Plain double crochet.

Fourth row—Double crochet with a tuft of five chains at intervals of every four stitches; these tufts to come between those done on second row.

Fifth row—Plain double crochet.

Sixth row—Five long treble into fifth stitch of previous row.

For the fringe cut the cotton into lengths of seven inches and knot two pieces into every stitch of the long trebles.

Realizing that many people are deceived by high-sounding advertisements, we caution our readers to know the dealer before buying. E. M. Wells, one of our most reliable druggists, has and does sell Acker's English Remedy from London, England. It is guaranteed to cure all phthisical troubles, including asthma, cough, whooping cough and all common coughs or colds.

When a Woman Envis a Man.

San Francisco Report.

There are just three things for which a woman envies a man. The first is—well I shan't tell what the first is. The second is the power to go out at night whenever and wherever he wishes; and the third is his being able to walk in sloppy weather without damp skirts slapping against his heels. A woman never envies a man his legs except on rainy days. Male legs always look so comfortable, while from ankle to knee, female legs are saturated. Petticoats will get wet, muddy and dragged, and a temper will flare up and bases. If women would wear the literal instead of the figurative pants, she might keep as sweet-tempered as the other sex—think they do.

A Scientific Snub.

New Haven News.

"I wish I were your star," he said, dreamily. "So do I," she returned promptly, heroically swallowing a yawn.

"And why, dear one," he asked impulsively, "why do you wish I were your brilliant star?" "Because," she replied, in a cold, matter-of-fact Rostovskian tone, "because your brilliant orb is just 11,700, 071 miles away." And he faded silently out like a mist before a summer sun.

The Imagination in Sickness.

Chicago Herald.

There was a little woman who was sick—not as sick as she thought, for little women have the most remarkable imaginations when they are ailing. One of the visitors remarked that she never could "bear to see any suffering."

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## THE WEATHER BUREAU.

Something in Regard to Old Probabilities and the Methods that He Employs.

How Our Weather Predictions are Made, the Instruments Used and the Results Attained.

Special correspondence of the Gazette.

The United States weather bureau is a considerable institution, but it is a little erratic at times. The supply of weather is not always regulated according to the demand, and while the country is never allowed to be wholly out of weather, frequently a large quantity is piled up for which there is no need. That may be said to have been the case during the past week or more. Gen. Hazen, the present head of the bureau, has many enemies, and various charges involving incompetency have been made for the purpose of embarrassing his removal, but it is generally known that he is personally responsible for all the discomfort, trouble and loss caused by the late extensive snow-storm and "cold snap," a great deal of weight would be added to the pressure against him. "Old Probabilities," as the weather office is familiarly known, has been the butt of many jokes, and at one time very little confidence was entertained for his prognostications; but since it has been

demonstrated that he can furnish all kinds of weather, and plenty of it, on very short notice, his proclamations are treated with marked respect.

The weather bureau, as now organized, is a military institution, or an appendage of the regular army. There have been propositions in congress to take it away from military protection and give it in charge of the agricultural department, but no positive action has been taken, and none is likely to be. The service can be performed cheaper and better under the present system, and, owing to the nature of the work, army discipline is not only advantageous, but almost necessary. Throughout the United States there are 376 signal stations, in charge of nineteen officers and 500 men of the signal corps of the army. Each station is provided with the best instruments, including all the latest inventions for observing and accurately recording the constant variations of the weather. From 129 of these stations telegraphic reports are sent daily to Washington; the others report by mail. Reports are received by the trained observers at important stations three times every twenty-four hours. These reports contain the particulars of the weather in the different districts. Seventeen stations in Canada, one in St. John, Newfoundland, and one in the northwestern part of British America send reports, and there are over 200 outside or volunteer observers in different sections who also send reports by mail. The telegraphic reports are transmitted to Washington by means of a secret code, a few figures conveying a large amount of information. These reports are received from all the stations in the United States, Canada and the West Indies inside of thirty minutes. A "translator" takes the telegrams in hand and reads them off to eight clerks, each of whom has a special weather map before him, on which he marks the particular readings he has been instructed to take. These eight maps are afterwards combined in one general map, which then fully represents all phases of the weather throughout the territory covered. This map is closely studied by an expert, and the office, the "storm center," located in the probable course of coming storms determined, and the complete "indications" made up for the several districts.

The first synchronous weather reports in this country were made in November, 1870, and since then the service has reached a high state of perfection. It is asserted by the officers in charge that ninety per cent of the advance bulletins issued are fully verified, with occasional variations of a few hours, while very few, if any, are absolutely wrong. Some account of the system and instruments used may be interesting to the majority of readers. The bureau passes its forecasts upon observations as to barometer, thermometer, hygrometer, anemometer, weather vane and rain-gauge, made at the same instant three times a day at all the stations. Each observer inspects his instrument at 7:35 a. m., 4:35 p. m., and 11:35 p. m., Washington time, and at once telegraphs his report to Washington, where the bulletins are made up, and published in each case one hour and twenty-five minutes after the observations are made—at 9 a. m., 6 p. m. and 1 a. m., respectively. Reliable weather prophecy requires that at least four things be known respecting the condition of the atmosphere over a wide area—its weight, as indicated by the barometer; its temperature, as shown by the thermometer; its degree of humidity, as shown by the hygrometer, and the direction and velocity of its currents, as recorded by the weather vane and anemometer. Observations of the amount of rainfall, expressed in inches, and the appearance of the clouds are sometimes found to be of great service. The barometer used in our service is the common mercurial barometer, in which the varying weight of the atmosphere at any given place is balanced against the weight of a column of mercury contained in a glass tube about thirty-three inches in length. At the sea-level in fair weather a column of air one inch square and extending to the upper limit of the atmosphere weighs fifteen pounds; a column of mercury of the same section and thirty inches high weighs the same; hence the power of the air under the conditions mentioned to sustain in a tube containing a vacuum in its upper end a column of mercury of the height named. It follows, of course, that the height of the mer