

**LADIES' DEPARTMENT.**

**TRAINING MILITARY NURSES.**

In the school for the training of military nurses established by the Princess Hohenzollern, in Strassburg, the princess shares alike with all members of the class in everything they are called to do, from binding a broken leg to answering the test questions of the examining corps of physicians. The princess is a woman of sixty, of strong nerves and splendid health, an excellent shot, being especially fond of a bear hunt, and a fine horsewoman.—[Boston Cultivator.

**A SINGER'S FACE DOCTOR.**

Patti has a face doctor, a woman whose duty is to keep Patti's face smooth and free from wrinkles. The face doctor has a little curtained boudoir to which Patti repairs, and with the full glare of noonday upon her the face doctor looks for every incipient line and possible blemish. This is immediately removed by massage, steaming, or unguents as the occasion requires. This woman studies the peculiarities of Patti's skin as a physician would study his patient's constitution. For it in a mysterious laboratory at the back of her rooms she prepares tonics, powders and soaps especially for the singer's use. She has responded to summonses to Craigy-nos, and it is said that this year Patti will take her face doctor with her to her castle in Wales.—[New York Sun.

**SLOPING SHOULDERS IN STYLE.**

Sloping shoulders, one of a woman's good points, have of late been but little regarded, but they are again coming to the fore, inasmuch as fashionable mantles (not paletots) are made to fall plainly on the shoulders, and entirely without any puff. The line of beauty is scarcely thus attained, as the fullness of the dress sleeve makes an impress on the mantle. The fashionable idea—broad shoulders—is attempted in every possible way, and to attain it even the slimness of the waist is abandoned. The cape is the best help in this respect, and the name includes every variety of mantle, exclusive of the paletot. The cape proper is a round pelerine cut in one piece and reaching to the knees; the top can have several graduated collars, a short pelerine, ruchings or a hood. The more or less eccentric deviations show two, three or more rows of large collars.—[St. Louis Republic.

**DRESS OF ITALIAN FISHERWOMEN.**

The chief feature of the dress of the women of the Italian coast fishers is a double skirt, the lower portion of which hangs rather scantily about their feet. The upper skirt is often hooked up at the front and sides, forming a sort of bag. In this they carry seaweed, fuel, fish or shell-fish from the sands; and when not in such use it is drawn up over the shoulders and back of the head as a sort of wrap. Mothers also wrap this skirt about their babies when needing to carry them for any distance. The material is usually the coarsest white cotton, but if the women can possess any sort of holiday attire, the upper skirt may be of scarlet, yellow or green, looped most gracefully above the lower skirt and surmounted by a black cloth, or, in rare instances, a coarse velvet bodice. They rarely wear any foot covering, and only such heel covering as is supplied by the folds of the upper skirt.—[New Orleans Picayune.

**YOU MUST BE SMARTLY SHOD.**

To be smartly gowned avails us nothing, if at the same time we are not smartly shod; and as shoes vary so little in their style, almost everything depends upon their shape. Of two sorts to be especially recommended, one is black cloth with finest French kid foxings, and the other is the Louis XVI. shoe. These last are made in undressed or glue kid, and have small buckles in jet or cast steel. George III. stock buckles in fine marquisettes are used on slippers and low shoes to be worn with handsome tea-gowns or at garden parties, when people are expected to be elaborately attired. A carriage boot of finest kid with patent-leather foxings is smartly brogued, and has the high heels so undesirable in a walking-boot. Bronze shoes have their places, which is, however, a limited one. It is affirmed that the gray and pale-fawn undressed kid shoes will be worn again this summer with drowsy promenade costumes, the gloves matching these shoes in kind and color. Five o'clock tea-shoes are made to order, to match the tea-frock, which differs from the princess tea-

gown in being short all around (that is, it has no train), and in being quite tight fitting, and worn with an Empire waist that is made to look short-waisted to absurdity by its wide sash, whose top folds reach to the armpits.—[New York Post.

**THE SPRING GIRL.**

Every right-minded woman can regulate her temperature in accordance with her ideas of what the weather ought to be, and when it is time for spring things she puts them on regardless of the mercury. The spring girl is tall, superbly tall. She has to be to wear the striped skirt she affects with its lines zigzagging around her on the cross. The skirt is dark rather than light in color, to contrast happily with the palest tan, and is just long enough to make carrying it in the hand imperative, for beneath the skirt is the bright bit of color in the petticoat that completes the costume as high lights finish a picture.

The coat has rough, ragged edges, very smart mannish reverses, and two rows of white pearl buttons as big as plates. The hat is of straw in four-hand shape, with a sparkling paste buckle in front and a pert, independent sort of bow in the back. That is dark, too, for the thing the girl really wants you to notice about the dress is the smartness of the coat and the brightness of the gay ruffles beneath the edges of the train. A spring girl without a tightly rolled blue or red club-handled umbrella, a pair of Russian red gloves and a bunch of violets or one American rose on her breast, would be as much of a failure as the Star-Spangled Banner with the stars left out of the blue field.—[Detroit Free Press.

**FASHION NOTES.**

Capotes and toques grow smaller in size.

The Watteau pleat, according to Parisian edict, must be worn only on tea gowns and evening dresses. A modification is made in favor of dust and driving cloaks of silk.

Jewels of color, gold embroidery, spangles and pearls, that were used last season on gowns and bonnets, are to be worn again this year.

A Russian belt of silver with a Kremlin buckle is among the girdles of fashion.

Trout silks is the suggestive name given to the new changeable shot silks, blue with yellow, green with blue, pink with gray, blue with yellow brown.

Silk blouses of surah and Chinese silks are worn with wool skirts and underneath wool coats.

Narrow ribbons are wound around the crowns of Tyrolean hats.

Rosettes of narrow ribbon are placed under the low flat brims of shade hats.

Cloth of gold gauze for embroidered bonnet crowns.

Les bagnes is the poetical name for a new crimped chiffon.

The incroyable only is wanting in the group of fashionable styles Watteau, Rococo, Empire.

Hercules braid bordered by tubular braid is suitable trimming for cloth gowns.

The tourist's parasol unscrews, so that it can be put in the trunk.

Ecu linen batistes have returned and will be used for blouses during the summer.

Flowers for the hat are arranged as aigrettes.

Point de Gene is the lace for French batistes.

Among the revivals are the old-time rings in hoop shape set with diamonds. The diamonds are placed in a row with just gold enough to form a setting.

An attractive and novel design for a pin is a siletto in Roman gold, to which is attached a sheath and chain. The dagger which forms the pin is stuck through the lace and then slipped into the sheath, the chain connecting the two. The hilt, which is in the form of a cross, is set with sapphires.

Busy women are preparing summer waists of black India silk; comfort waists they call them. These are made with shirred yoke, or with narrow tucks, and have full-topped sleeves and a ruffle below the belt, or they may be drawn in at the waist-line with the skirt portion to be worn under the dress-skirt.

For evening wear, gloves in dark shades are no longer worn; they must be of finely glazed kid, in pearl, cream or lemon shades. Gloves for outdoor wear are generally made of antelope skin, as it is so soft and pliable; the same skin is used largely in the manufacture of purses, pocketbooks, etc.

**RICE IN JAPAN.**

**RAISING THE BREADSTUFF OF THE FAR EAST.**

Great Care and Labor Necessary to Produce a Crop—Queer Japanese Plows—Threshing and Hulling Rice.



**R**ICE, says Frank G. Carpenter in the American Farmer, is the bread of the Far East, and of all the people in the world one-third grow up, work, and die on little else than a rice diet. The Chinese, the Japanese, and the East Indians know nothing of baker's bread, and wheaten flour is hardly used outside of Christendom. We are ourselves the chief meat-eaters of the world, and we have the idea that a man cannot do good work without meat. The farmer of China and Japan works twelve hours every day on a rice diet, and I have been pulled all day in jirikshas by bare-legged men who ran at the rate of five miles an hour, and who ate nothing but rice and pickles to keep them going. Some of the strongest men in the world are the Japanese wrestlers, whose fat and muscle are made entirely from rice; and in Siam they take a baby of a few months old and it begins the rice food, which it takes to the day of its death. The Japanese look upon rice as we do upon wheat. Our expression "as good as rice," and for a long time all the taxes of the country were paid in rice, and rice was practically the money of Japan. Now the Emperor collects his taxes in the same way that we do. He has instituted a banking system much like that of our National banks, but the money received by the Government is largely the result of the taxes on rice, and eighty per cent. of all the revenues of JAPANESSE PLOW. Japan are gotten from the farmers and farm industries.

The Japanese are among the best farmers of the world. They understand how to use manures and fertilizers, and they have brought irrigation down to a science. For more than 2000 years they have tilled the same soil over and over again, and to-day the land blossoms like

has an iron point for a plowshare, but there is no loam-board, nor any arrangements for turning furrows or for plowing deep or shallow at will. The farmer carries his plow with him on his shoulder to the field, walking behind his bullock, and he does not hope to do anything more than break the surface with it. The chief part of the work is done with the spade or with the mattock. This last has a short handle, and you see all over Japan during the springtime men and women standing up to their knees in water and digging up the ground with these great hoes.

The first thing in rice-planting is the nursery. This is usually made in the corner of the field and the seed is sown in it. The bed has been first covered with manure, and it is always the richest part of the farm. As soon as the ground has been prepared the seed is scattered over its surface by hand, and the water is then let out from the irrigation canals so that it covers the bed for a depth of a few inches. There is great care in the selection of the seed, and it is sometimes kept under water several days before-hand. Four or five days after the seed has been sown it begins to sprout, and



THRASHING RICE.

about five weeks later the young rice plants have grown up and are ready for transplanting. During the planting scarecrows are put up in the field, and the Japanese scarecrow always has a bow and arrow, which it is supposed frighten the birds away.

In the meantime the farmer has put his rice lands in order. His beds are made at different levels, and he has seen that little earth walls have been thrown up around the divisions of his fields and has arranged his canals so that he can let the water from one place to another as he pleases. He has been manuring the ground throughout the winter, and he has made it as level as the floor. He has flooded it with water, and it is as soft as mush when he is ready to plant. He now takes his shoots from the nursery, ties them into bunches of a size that you can easily take in your hand, and then wading through the field, scatters them singly right and left over the water where they are needed. He has a number of men and women to help him plant, and



HULLING RICE.

these take the bunches and set them out in rows of from four to six plants in a bunch, and so that there are from 1500 to 3000 bunches in an acre. This planting is done about the first of June. The plants begin to grow at once, and within a few weeks the land of Japan, from being rough and brown, has become a most beautiful green. The country has a climate which is extremely favorable to agriculture. It is so moist and warm in the summer that the rice fields are like so many hot beds, and after planting the only thing that is necessary to do is to see that they are kept free from weeds and are well watered. The farmers watch them as carefully as an old maid does her pet flower bed. You may at any time see men trotting along under big hats watching closely every plant, and if one is out of shape, too deep in the water, or not deep enough, they will push them down or pull the mud up to them in such a way that every plant produces its best product.



A JAPANESE SCARECROW.

from one year's end to the other. They have but few horses, and the most of the labor is done by hand. The fields are sometimes plowed with bullocks, but they are more often spaded or dug over with a great mattock, and in the cultivation of rice nearly everything is done by hand.

The work begins about the 1st of April, when the ground is broken up with the hoe or the plow. If the plow is used it is drawn by a bullock, and the plow itself is for all the world like that used in Egypt in the time of Pharaohs. It is of wood, and is more like a forked stick than a good American plow. It

work by water, but nearly everything is on the smallest scale, and there are no great rice-husking and polishing machines such as you will find in India, Burma and the other great rice countries of the world.

A good rice field ought to produce about forty bushels to the acre, and some of these Japanese fields produce more. The country of Japan produces nearly a hundred and fifty million bushels of rice a year, and their rice is the finest in the world. It may surprise some to know that there are different kinds of rice, but Japan alone has over 200 kinds, and there is as much difference in the quality as there is in the quality of wheat and potatoes. The Japanese understand the possibilities of irrigation. These rice beds are on different levels, and during the time I was in Japan the land made me think of a gigantic patch-work or one of nature's crazy-quits. Each little spot of green rice had flowers planted upon the little walls of earth which surrounded it, and between the patches of rice were gardens of beautiful flowers and many colored crops of other kinds. The water which washed the roots of the green rice plants sparkled like diamonds under the sun, and the bare-legged farmers under their big hats with their mahogany legs shining out over the green seemed a natural part of the scene.

A great deal of the irrigation of Japan is done by human labor. The water is raised from one level to another in buckets or in jars fastened to great wheels upon which men stand and step up from one rung of the wheel to the other with much the same motion a dog in a dog churn. In the western part of Japan a great deal of the water is drawn from wells by means of a long handled pole hung on a pivot, by which a man pumps the water out of the ground and spreads it over the fields. Labor in Japan is very cheap. You can get a good man in the interior from ten to fifteen cents a day, and he will board himself. Women can be gotten at still lower wages, and the result is that the farming of Japan is far more intensive than ours, and a much greater percentage is gotten from the acre. Some of the fields produce two and three crops a year, and one crop is scarcely harvested before the next is put in. This, however, is not the case with rice. It seems to exhaust the land and rice lands are usually allowed to lie fallow in the winter.

During the past ten years Japan has changed agriculturally as well as politically, and since the revolution it has become a different country. It has a population of about 38,000,000, and it is estimated that only ten per cent. of the country is given up to farming; but this area will be rapidly increased from now on. There is a big agricultural college near Tokio, and agricultural schools have been established in different parts of the Empire. Experiments are being made in the introduction of stock, and the whole physical as well as the intellectual life of the people is changing. The fact that the Japanese were Buddhists has greatly prejudiced them against the use of meat. In Buddhism, a man's soul after death is liable to go into the body of an animal, and the Japanese have a prejudice against serving up for breakfast slices of their ancestors, and in the killing of a cow or sheep they might be cutting off the life of a grandfather or a great-grandmother. Buddhism is, I think, declining. The contact with Western civilization has caused the people to give up many of their old prejudices, and while they have largely become infidels instead of Christians, after leaving the religion of their fathers they are ready to look at things in a practical light, and they will in the future probably be meat-eaters as well as rice-eaters.

**The Peculiar Mexicans.**

"There is one peculiarity about the Mexicans which I doubt to exist among any other people on the globe," said P. L. Hell, of Chihuahua, Mexico. "While it is true that a majority of those occupying the highest social and political positions in the country are descendants of the proud old aristocratic Spaniards, yet it is equally true that a good many others of wealth and acknowledged leadership have come up from the lower ranks by some sudden turn of the wheel of fortune or eruption of evolution. Unlike the American, the Mexican who acquires fame and fortune never forgets or neglects his poor kin. And, unlike the American again, he treats his more impecunious relatives in a queer way. He takes them into his household as servants, giving to them the most menial service, but never denying the relationship or attempting to conceal it. I know of many instances where a rich Mexican's mother is his cook, his sister his house girl and his father or brother his butler. The American would either disown them altogether or put them on equal footing with himself. In this regard, you must admit, the democracy of Mexico is purer than that so loudly boasted of in this country."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

**The Only Way.**



Kind Party—"What are you crying that way for, little boy?" Little Boy—"Cause it's the only way I know how to cry."—Life.

**SEVEN PERSONS SUFFOCATED.**

**They Were Asleep When a Fire Broke Out in the House.**  
BERLIN, May 14—Seven persons have been suffocated by the burning of a house at Krefeld, Rhenish, Prussia. They were asleep at the time the flames broke out, and were smothered by the smoke while endeavoring to make their escape.

**CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATIONS.**

The Democratic convention of the Fourth Ohio Congressional district renominated Hon. F. C. Layton by acclamation.  
L. A. Tucker was nominated for congress by the People's party of Crawford Co., Pa.  
The Republicans of the Fourth congressional district of Kansas, nominated Charles E. Curtis for Congress.  
The Democratic congressional convention of the Fifth Missouri district renominated John C. Tarsney by acclamation.  
The Democrats of the Second Indiana District have renominated Congressman Brier.

**THE NATIONAL GAME.**

WHITEWASHES are frequent enough this season.  
THE Bostonians expect to win the pennant without trouble.  
KELLY is doing most of the catching for the Boston team.  
PITCHER GALVIN, of Pittsburg, is in his thirty-eighth year.  
JOYCE, of Brooklyn, batted safely in every one of his first eleven games.  
THE Boston team so far leads all the League teams in base-running.  
RYAN, of Chicago, is probably the best throwing outfielder in the profession.  
ARSON, of Chicago, has finally realized the value of bunt hitting, and is practicing his men at it daily.  
MCATEER, of Cleveland, scored against the New Yorks in a recent game, from second base, on a hit to the pitcher.  
HUTCHINSON, of Chicago, and Rusie, of New York, the two crack pitchers of the country last season, are still out of form.  
MANAGER POWERS attributes the recent poor showing of the New Yorks to "Rusie's lame arm and lack of team work."  
THE first base ball fatality of the season occurred at Dover, N. H., when James Rich died from injuries received while sliding to the home plate.  
SENATORS HIGGINS, WOLCOTT AND DUBOIS, who are frequently among the spectators at Washington, used to play ball with their college nines.  
THE allegation is made that when a game of baseball is in progress at Washington, it is almost possible to find a quorum of the House of Representatives among the spectators.  
THE size, tone and enthusiasm of the attendance everywhere afford no practical demonstration of the repeated winter assertion that baseball "is dying out" and that "consolidation would ruin the game."  
O'BRIEN, of Brooklyn, had a funny experience at Louisville. He made the circuit of the bases on a base on balls, a steal and a passed ball. It was then discovered that he had batted out of his turn, and he was declared out by Umpire Lynch.  
DENLEY, once the greatest of second basemen, is idle in Philadelphia. He is still looking for a call from some major league club. He is waiting patiently for the explosion of "phenomenon," but the magnates seem to have forgotten him totally.  
SAYS Manager Bancroft: "Why should a game of ball that is stopped by rain—say in the third or fourth inning—be played all over again? My idea is that the club in the lead should retain its advantage and the next day take up the game at the point at which it was abandoned. When a trot is interrupted by darkness the horses are not compelled to run all the beats once more. I hold that the same principle applies to baseball."

**The League Record.**

The following table shows the standing of the various base ball clubs:

	W. L. PCT.	Chicago	W. L. PCT.		
Boston	18	7-82	Chicago	12	11-522
Brooklyn	13	7-83	Phila.	10	12-455
Cleveland	12	9-571	New York	9	11-452
Louisville	13	10-595	Washington	12	429
Pittsburgh	13	11-542	St. Louis	7	13-280
Cincinnati	13	11-542	Baltimore	4	16-300

**THE LABOR WORLD.**

THERE are 43,000 laborers in Detroit, Mich.  
THERE are nearly 3000 stitches in a pair of hand-sewn boots.  
IN Ohio laws have been enacted prohibiting shaving on Sunday.  
FARM laborers in Italy get but twenty cents a day on an average.  
THE Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen has a membership of about 23,000.  
THE convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers met this year in Atlanta, Ga.  
IN Philadelphia the cabinet makers have succeeded in reducing their daily working hours to nine.  
IN the rice fields of northern Italy women wade to their knees twelve hours at a stretch for ten cents.  
OVER one million children are at present employed in the mills and factories of the United States.  
AN influx of English potters is looked for in Trenton (N. J.) this summer on account of the Staffordshire strike in England, where 25,000 men are out.  
OVER 2500 granite cutters working a number of New England quarries were looked out for demanding that their yearly agreement should be signed by their bosses at the regular time.  
AT the dictation of the men put in power by the Unionists in Australia, all immigration into the colony is prohibited, so that the thousand of people now unemployed there may have an opportunity to find work.  
IN the telegraph service of the United States, it is estimated that 43,000 men and women are at present employed. The length of wire in use is over 900,000 miles, and the capital invested is stated to be at least \$100,000,000.  
CAPTAIN MITCHELL, of Chicago, known familiarly as "Old Mitch," is said to be the oldest sleeping porter in service on the road. He is sixty-eight years old and has been employed by the Pullman Company for seventeen years.  
PRESIDENT CLARK, of the Union Pacific Railroad, began life as a brakeman on a gravel train. He is particularly popular with all the labor organizations, and no trouble has ever arisen from these sources since he became manager.  
LAST year 6384 people, most of whom were railway employes, were killed in this country in railroad accidents, and 25,025 were wounded. The number of killed in England were 1073 and 4721 wounded; in France 870 were killed and 709 wounded, and in Russia the number of killed was 42, while 1307 were wounded.  
ROSS WINANS, the American millionaire sportsman, is being sued by the trustees of Sir James Mackenzie, from whom he rents an immense deer forest in Inverness, Scotland, for allowing his keepers to drive 600 red deer off the grounds in an unscrupulous fashion. Winans contends he did it because his estate is overstocked with deer.