

MISS WHITNEY, ASTRONOMER.

The Career of One of Vassar's Scientific Women.

Among the women who have risen to prominence in the field of science, Miss Mary W. Whitney, now the professor of astronomy at Vassar College, stands out most strikingly. Miss Whitney was called to the assistant's chair at Vassar in 1881, when Maria Mitchell of Nantucket, had the chair of astronomy, which she had held since 1865. Miss Whitney graduated from the institution in 1865, having studied under Miss Mitchell, with whom she observed the solar eclipse of 1869.

In 1872 she assisted her in determining the latitude of the Vassar observatory, after which she attended lectures by Prof. Pierce at Harvard, and, going to Europe in 1874, continued her studies in astronomy and mathematics at the University of Zurich. Another leading



Miss Mary W. Whitney.

woman astronomer is Miss Mary E. Byrd, director of the observatory at Smith college, who is a graduate of the University of Michigan. In 1888, with the aid of Miss Whitney, she determined the latitude of her observatory at Northampton, Mass. Other women astronomers are Miss Sarah F. Whiting of Wellesley college; Miss Margaretta Palmer of the Yale observatory; Miss Dorothea Klumpke of San Francisco; Mrs. Milton Updegraff of the University of Missouri; Miss C. R. Willard of Carlton College observatory, Northfield, Minn.; Miss Anna Winlock of Harvard observatory; Miss Coralina Allen of the Bay City high school, Mich.; Mrs. Fleming of Harvard observatory and Miss Anna C. Maury.

HAIR GREW AFTER DEATH.

Heavy Braids Ten Feet Long Found in a Coffin Twenty Years Buried.

A prominent citizen of Warren Summit, N. H., recently caused the body of his mother to be disinterred for the purpose of burying it in another spot, when it was found that the coffin was completely encased with the strands of the lady's hair, even the grave being filled with the silky masses, which had to be cut through before the coffin could be removed. Upon opening the coffin the remains, with the exception of the head, were found to have perished, but the skull was wonderfully preserved, and even the skin intact, and from this had grown a quantity of hair such as no living person could carry. The lady had been dead nearly twenty years, and at the time of her decease her magnificent suit of hair had been clipped short, so there is no doubt of all that was found in the coffin having grown after death.

Her son says, however, that his mother's hair was of a beautiful bright golden hue, whereas the post-mortem growth is of a pale, colorless tinge, dingy and coarse, though retaining a sort of vitality. It had forced its way through the seams of the coffin and twined about it like the tendrils of a vine, and was so thick as to hide it completely, while it filled the coffin as entirely. It was calculated that there was nearly seventy-five pounds of it in all and that the strands were fully ten feet in length. The lady on whose head this grew died at the age of 27 and after an illness of only a few hours, consequently retaining her robust and full-bodied figure, which may possibly account for the extraordinary growth. When it was removed from about the coffin the latter fell apart, showing that it had held together by the hair.

Anecdote of the Petersburg Crater.

I was in Virginia in 1864, and the paragraph in Gen. Grant's Vicksburg paper describing the mine explosion and the frightened negro who was lifted "about three miles" brings to my mind the mining of the Confederate works before Petersburg in the summer of 1864. Among the prisoners captured was one whose face was greatly begrimed, and as he marched by he was saluted by a blue coat with the remark: "Say, Johnny! guess you got blown up." "Well," replied Johnny with an oath, "I should just say so; but somehow I got the start of the other fellows, for when I was coming down I met the regiment going up, and they all called me a blasted straggler!"—Henry R. Howland in The Century.

Cases of Nutmeg Poisoning.

Some people doubt the poisonous effect of nutmeg, but several cases of nutmeg poisoning have been noted in The British Medical Journal during the past summer. A whole nutmeg was taken in four of the cases, and five whole ones in the remaining case. In still another case, the use of half a nutmeg in a hot drink was nearly fatal.—Boston Budget.

A Slow Train.

Brakeman—Passengers is not allowed on the platforms, sir, when the train is in motion.

Passenger—Beg pardon. I will go in. I did not notice that the train was in motion.—New York Weekly.

Thrift of the Germans.

Frugality, thrift, the most thorough and searching economy is dear and precious to the true inwardness of the German heart. Their daily living is shining proof of this. The food is abundant and of excellent quality, but when once a joint or a roast or a pudding has been set before the family and a portion unhappily left over, this appears with religious regularity again and again as long as one morsel remains. An American housekeeper would be embarrassed, for instance, at the thought of serving at the tea table to a large family the two or three spoonfuls of apple sauce left over from the meats at dinner, but not so the German housewife. What though there be only "ein kleine Bischen" (a tiny, little bit), which, by the way, seems to be the favorite quantity for one or two persons, there are "tiny little bits" of other things, a plenty that have been accumulating for several days, and no one need go away hungry from a table supplied with good things, though in relatively infinitesimal quantities.—Hanover Cor. Boston Herald.

A Watch Without Hands.

The watch without hands, which has recently been brought before the public, is simply a watch with ordinary wheelwork, in which the intermediate teeth are wanting, and which gear every minute and hour only. The contrivance, though admitted to possess some inconveniences, is, on the other hand, claimed to present some genuine preferences over the ordinary make. Thus, the construction not only allows the reading to be accurate, but also permits of estimating the time that separates each passing minute. There is not only an optical signal given, but also an acoustic one, since at every change of figure the ear perceives a slight sound, and consequently it becomes useless for one to examine his watch in order to measure a given interval of time—a feature of special value to engineers, physicians, officers, travelers and observers. The experimenter knows exactly when a minute begins and ends.—New York Sun.

Girls' Social Distinctions.

An amusing thing about these girls is that they keep up social distinctions. A collar girl does not associate with a cotton mill girl. Neither will they have a laundry girl for a friend. The laundry girls think they are better than the cotton mill girls, though this is disputed, while both recognize the superiority of the collar girls. The collar girls have their own sets, according to the character and quality of their work. The new assembly-men are ignorant of this intricate social code, and make many embarrassing mistakes at first by giving suppers to which they invite cotton mill girls from Cohoes and collar girls from Troy.

SERIOUS DANGER

Threatens every man, woman or child living in a region of country where fever and ague is prevalent, since the germs of malarial disease are inhaled from the air and are swallowed from the water of such a region. Medifinal safeguard is absolutely necessary to nullify this danger. As a means of fortifying and acclimating the system so as to be able to resist the malarial poison, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is incomparably the best and the most popular. Irregularities of the stomach, liver and bowels encourage malaria; but these are speedily rectified by the Bitters. The functions of digestion and secretions are assisted by its use, and a vigorous as well as regular condition of the system promoted by it. Constitution and physique are thus defended against the invasions of malaria by this matchless preventive, which is also a certain and thorough remedy in the worst cases of intermittent and remittent fevers.

Gently Expressed.—Waiter, please take this cheese away again. It is too uneasy for me.

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WOOD AND WED.

The east wind blustered in her ear, The daisy, shuddering, drooped her head, Such woe-like pined her heart with fear, She closed her eye and said: "No lover true would think to harm A wee bit thing like modest me; I'll crouch me down and keep me warm Till summer sets me free."

The zephyr whispered through her hair, The daisy, blushing, coyly smiled, She thought to say: "How do you dare?" His sighs her thoughts beguiled, He kissed her crown, and crimson lips, Her tresses trembled on his crest, But dew drops stamed her petal tips When Zol drove him west.

The bloom of autumn woo'd her heart, The daisy gave her heart away, Such love as their's true joys impart, Their life was golden day, No thought how long such love could last, 'Twas his upon her breast to lie, Her matron hopes to shadow cast That love would ever die.
—Dr. John M. Harper.

"Inspection" is the Regular Service. "But I want to tell you it isn't alone the musket carrier who shirks. That's a faculty which creeps in once in a while over in the officers' quarters. If this were not true, the privates couldn't 'soldier' so successfully."
"How?"
"Well, take it on 'inspection,' for instance. I'll venture to say that knapsacks are not carefully inspected more than once out of fifty inspections made at the various posts in a year. I had a knapsack which I packed in the spring of 1876, and I never unpacked it until I left the army."

"Where did you keep your clothes?"
"In my box."
"What was in your knapsack?"
"Old togs. It's an old gag, and works beautifully. You take a pair of trousers and a pair of drawers. Fold them together with the legs alternating. Then you take an overcoat (of course these are old clothes which have been cast aside) and leave out the cape and possibly the sleeves. The idea is to use as little material as possible, but fold it in such a way that the colors—blue, white, gray, etc.—will show up! regulation fashion. Take an old pair of shoes and cut them down until only the soles and counters are left. Polish up the counters and shove the things down into your knapsack and there you are. When your knapsack lies on the ground open she looks all right and snug and not worthy of more careful examination."

"But if you're caught at it?"
"Yes; I've been there. It was in the fall of '69, during my first term of service in the regulars. I forgot now all about the punishment, but I know I was put in the dump—they were grading off a portion of the parade ground—as long as the work lasted, then I had police duty as a regular thing for about three months, and during the whole time had no passes to town."

"And yet you tried it again?"
"Of course. It's a sort of satisfaction to realize that you're getting the best of your superiors. It's funny when you don't get caught at it."—Detroit Free Press.

A Valuable Set of Vestments. A famous old set of vestments now in the cathedral sacristy was a gift to the late Archbishop Hughes. On these vestments, which were of the finest gold cloth, was worked the archbishop's coat of arms. They were embroidered in gold and incrustated with jewels. This set comprises vestments for twelve priests besides the archbishop. It is valued at \$20,000, and was imported from Lyons. Archbishop Corrigan wears these vestments occasionally.—New York Herald.

"She's still notoriously in love."
"And he?"
"Yes, he's perfectly submissive, as becomes a ten dollar man with a hundred thousand dollar wife."—Town Topics.

THIS AND THAT.
How it Works.

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1626 Orleans St., Balto., Md., Feb. 26, '90.
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CURES BRUISES.
Fetersville, Mo., Feb. 7, 1890.
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CURES SPRAINS.
Cincinnati, Ohio, April 2, 1890.
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