

THE WOMEN OF FAYAL.

The Industries and Occupations of the Peasant Class—A Simple and Effective Dress—All Their Work Well Done—The Truly Christian Spirit of Two Rude-Treated Girls. Weaving and Embroidering.

New York Post: West of Lisbon, northwest of Africa, lies the group of Azore islands.

Fayal, one of the most favored of the group, is perhaps best known to Americans. This is not the place for a description of the wonderful combination of sea and mountain, river and valley, cave and crater, garden and orange grove, which in fertility, picturesque and coloring rivals many more popular winter resorts. Yet this paradise, in spite of all its charms, is after all but earthly, for there is much poverty and some suffering among its inhabitants, which falls, as usual, most heavily upon the weaker set, both in human and in the brute creation. A Fayal visiting America hailed it as the paradise of women and girls, as well she might, for here she enjoyed her first experience of walking unattended through city streets, a thing till recently unheard of among the higher classes in the Azores. And for the first time she saw "the milky mothers of the herd" lazily following the ead in shady pastures or standing knee deep in meadow brooks, their only care being to whisk off the flies from their sleek sides. For in Fayal the cows not only supply the population with blue milk, but they also draw the antiquated ploughs and squeaking carts, doing the duty of oxen or horses in other more enlightened lands.

The Fayal ladies are attractive and graceful, and in many cases accomplished—but it is of the peasant women that I would write to-day. They are not a handsome race, but are gentlemanly, honest and industrious. The usual dark southern type is pleasantly varied in one mountain village called Planizinas, where the women are settled by a colony of Flemings, where, in spite of intermarriage with the Portuguese and long residence in an almost tropical climate, the villagers still retain the fair hair and eyes of the northern race.

The dress is generally a dark cotton skirt with a loose cascade of lighter color, and bright handkerchiefs for neck and head. The feet are clad in bare, and the long black cloak, with whalebone-stiffened hood standing out, balloon-like, around the head, is the favorite garment of a Fayal woman, and she will work and walk and travel to purchase one. It forms a perfect disguise, covers all deficiencies of dress, and is apparently suited to all seasons and temperatures.

These women bring to a high degree of excellence the ordinary feminine occupations of housework and plain sewing. Their needlework is painstaking and ambitious, and they are proud to show their ability to bring in outside labor for extra work. What a contrast to our domestic, who, year by year, is becoming more and more a creature of the total absence of the necessities of life, who would surprise our more fortunate laboring class. Many of the peasants taste meat only once a year, on Wednesdays, when tables are spread in the streets of Horta, and the people feast at the public expense.

I was one day walking through the principal street when my attention was attracted by an open carriage, drawn, as usual, by mules. In the middle of the back seat was an old peasant woman, who, while she bowed and smiled to her acquaintances most affably, was firmly clutching the sides of the carriage in evident fear of falling out. The expression of mingled pride and terror was amazing that I was moved to make inquiries, and heard that the old woman had delivered some work to a lady who had just returned from a drive and who kindly invited her to go home in the empty carriage. This was an extraordinary honor, too tempting to be refused, yet a fearful one, for the old peasant had never before been in any sort of carriage and was so terrified at clattering rapidly over the paved streets that her first and last drive was not one of unmitigated pleasure, though an event to look back upon with ever-increasing pride.

The women are very devout—far more so than the men—and the churches are thronged with worshippers. On the occasion of a visitation from the bishop the holy week ceremonies were so crowded that it was found necessary to issue admission tickets on Good Friday. A kind mistress secured excellent seats for two of her maids, but some ladies, feeling that it was their duty to be present, developed two special benches of work—the open-work stockings, knit on the finest steel needles, and the white embroidery, unsurpassed in evenness and durability. The embroiderers are faithful copyists, and can reproduce intricate designs with absolute accuracy and exquisite finish.

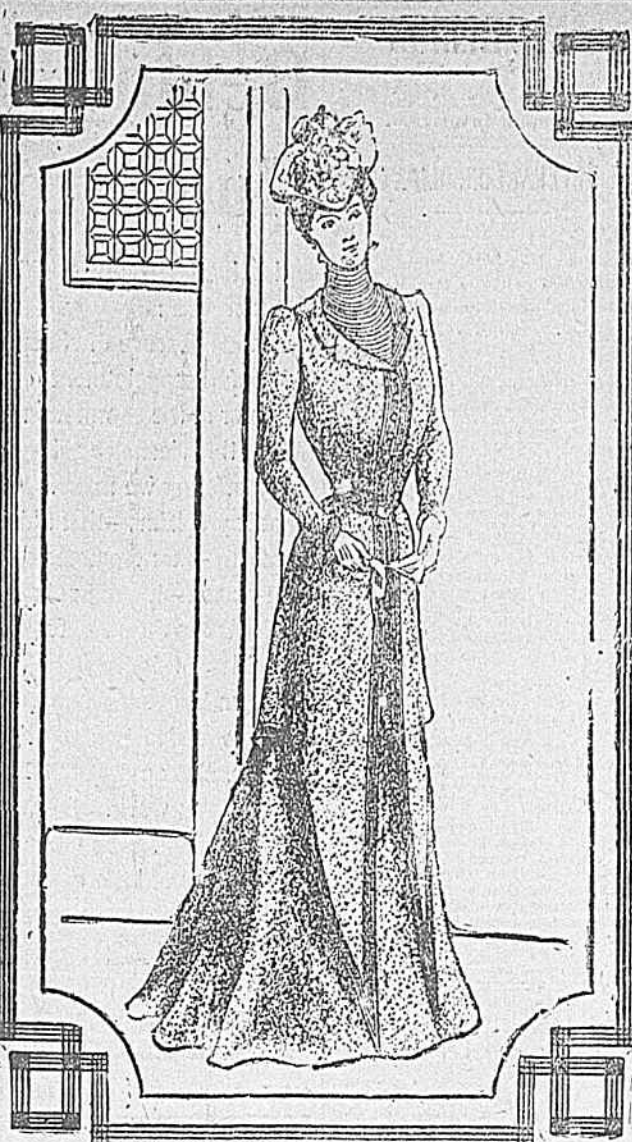
Another industry is the lace made from blue and white threads of extreme delicacy, but great strength. They do not exceed a yard in length, but are so delicately joined that the knots cannot be detected. This thread is then knitted into elaborate lace of many designs and forms—as shawls, jackets, capes, edgings, etc. It is strong, lasting for years, in spite of its delicate, filmy appearance.

Fayal straw is noted for its fine quality and lustre, and here again the industry of the women is admirable. The braids for hats, bannets and fancy work are infinitely varied. Tulle is also decorated with fine straw embroidery, either in dots or designs more or less elaborate, both sides of which are exactly alike. Ball dresses made of this straw-spangled lace are extremely pretty.

With one more branch of work this list of industries ends—the flowers made from the pit of almonds and other plants. Of course, this requires most delicate and skillful handling. Long experience has taught the workers how best to choose materials from the many plants which grow in tropical luxuriance on this garden-island. The sun flower and rice plant furnish a pithy film which is used for very delicate parts, such as the flower petals, while again the stems are made from cane fibers. Some of these women have true artistic enthusiasm, carefully studying the different flower forms and reproducing them with marvellous exactness.

Then, there are the industries of our clever Fayal sisters, and when one considers their many limitations, one cannot fail to be astonished at the results of their faithful labor.

A Sewing Cornhill Magazine: Perhaps of all my birds the one I called the sewing crow was the most amusing. It was a glossy black bird about the size of a thrush, with pale-yellow tail and wing feathers and curious light blue eyes with very



Green Cloth Street Costume From Harper's Bazar.

A simple but very handsome walking costume, is designed in green cloth. The bodice is tight fitting, simulating a coat; the narrow turned-down collar reveals a tucked cream-white vest with big standing collar. The skirt, made with a pointed tunic, is joined to the bodice by a narrow stitched belt of the material, so that the effect is that of a princess gown. Rows of machine stitching and crystal buttons form the sole trimming. The machine-stitched cuffs are lined with cream-white silk, as is also the tunic. In cutting the material for this dress, the design of which we have reproduced from Harper's Bazar, the use of the cut paper patterns published by that periodical will be necessary.

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STUBBORN COLDS.

A stubborn cold is easily taken; it sticks to some people all winter and very often develops into bronchitis or consumption. You should cure a cold promptly by taking Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. This celebrated remedy is acknowledged to be most efficient and reliable for all affections of the throat and lungs. It cures a cold at once.

Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

Promptly cures Stubborn Colds. Doses are small and pleasant to take. Doctors recommend it. Price 25 cts. All druggists.

The International Sunday School Lesson.

February 5, 1899. John IV: 34-51.

The Nobleman's Son Healed.

Galilee was a populous, commercial and comparatively unconventional district. It was more in touch with the great world of art and traffic. An infusion of foreign elements in its population, and its distance from the seat of national ecclesiasticism had a liberalizing influence. All tended to make it a favorable field for Jesus' ministry. Here He spent most of His time, worked most of His miracles, preached most of His sermons.

One obstacle stood in His way. He was Himself a Galilean. He diagnosed the case when He said a prophet is not honored in his own country. Familiarity with him breeds contempt of him. But Jesus had forestalled this by His brief career at Jerusalem. His honor was an exotic transplanted from Judea to Galilee. The Galilean pilgrims brought His fame back with them. So He was "received."

At the very scene of His first miracle came an important appeal for the working of another. A father's heart, wrung by anguish, forgot rank and station, and makes its pitiful appeal. What would it be if he was a king's officer to Herod Antipas? Shall he stand upon any ceremony while his son lies at the point of death?

Thus early in His career Jesus announces a fundamental principle which shall guide him in the use of miraculous power. His signs and wonders are not wrought to extort faith from others. On the contrary, it shall be faith that extorts them from Him. This faith the nobleman shows in his journey of twenty miles, and in the language of his appeal. The strength of his faith is further manifested in his willingness to accept unexpected and severe test. Healing in absence was not so much as dreamed of. Yet, when Jesus spoke the word the man "believed" and "went." There was no dubious hesitation or further appeal for Jesus' own presence.

But on the morrow the nobleman's faith was destined to sweep out in a wider circle, to embrace the Miracle-working in a new and diviner office. When, by comparison of hours, it was discovered that the moment of the child's recovery was identical with that in which Jesus uttered the word of power, "Thy son liveth," then the nobleman believed His divine nature and messianic claim. In this faith his whole house shared. So we have the lovely spectacle of a first converted family.

The Teacher's Lantern.

(1). The miraculous character of this deed cannot be discounted. This is not an instance of the "inspiration of hope" into the patient by the healer's presence. Jesus was twenty miles away. For the same reason the infusion of nervous power by personal contact was impossible.

(2). The nobleman thought Jesus' presence indispensable to the healing. But when put to his faith stood the test. When the word was spoken he believed it efficient.

(3). The cure was instantaneous. The father expected the child to begin to mend and that recovery would be gradual. But it was more than a truce for the better. The fever left him. What Jesus does is done well.

(4). Jesus' miracles were never mere wonders; they were signs as well. Symbols of heavenly truth, parables in action.

(5). No sense of spiritual need brought the nobleman to Jesus—a father's heart impelled him. He came for bodily healing. But it was the "miracle" which the nobleman needed was discovered. It paved the way to the supply.

EVERYBODY'S liable to itching places. Itchy skin is old and young. It is the torture they suffer. Only one sure cure. Doan's Ointment. Absolutely safe; can't fail.

EXCURSION TO NEW ORLEANS.

Mardi Gras via Baltimore & Ohio. February 6 to 12, inclusive, the Baltimore & Ohio will sell excursion tickets to New Orleans, La., via New York, N. Y., and return, valid for return passage until February 28, inclusive. For tickets and full information apply to Ticket Agent, Baltimore, Md. Passenger and Ticket Agent.

It Beats the Band.

The newest and most inspiring piece of sheet music, arranged for piano, is "The Pioneer Limited March," composed by Fred. Fredrick Phinney, Bandmaster United States Band, published by S. Brainerd's Sons Co., Chicago, Ill.; distributed only by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. It is a march of the most stirring and original kind, and is a masterpiece of musical composition. It is a march of the most stirring and original kind, and is a masterpiece of musical composition. It is a march of the most stirring and original kind, and is a masterpiece of musical composition.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

The Features of the Money and Stock Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—Money on call firm at 2 1/2 per cent; last loan 2 1/2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 per cent. Sterling exchange 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 per cent. Demand and 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 per cent; for sixty days; posted bills 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 per cent; commercial bills 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 per cent. Silver certificates 6 1/2 to 6 3/4 per cent. Bar silver 7 1/2 to 7 3/4 per cent; Mexican dollars 4 to 4 1/2 per cent.

Stock values received a severe test to-day, the market at one time bordering on the panic stage through the enormous outpouring of stock from the professional and commission house sources, but the day left off with irregular changes of a fraction either way, with the tone strong. Before the opening it was expected that yesterday's market showed that a reaction was under way, but it was contended that the forces resisting a decline in the absence of extremely unfavorable news would not likely allow the market to fall very far. The absence of decided tone to the early market was in part due to the expression of a prominent bull leader that the market had a dread look, but that he did not know what to do with their money, and if the market rested a week or two a price would be regular. The grangers showing a moderately good tone on St. Paul's increase of \$10,000 for the fourth week in January. The specialties were inclined to sag, and commission houses support was only moderate. Such strength as there was in the market disappeared under professional pressure. There was an absence of support from large interests and realizing sentiment, which the bears encouragement for a vigorous demonstration which, after a feeble rally, resulted in many stop loss orders being caught. It was said that the heavy selling came from Washington and the rumor gained currency that the ratification of the peace treaty was jeopardized. The market took the effects of the money realizing and took place last week and this. The lowest points of the day were shortly after noon. The grangers were down from \$100 to \$90, and the market was in a Burlington; the coalers from 1 1/2 per cent in New Jersey Central to 2 1/2 per cent in Reading first preferred. In the Pacific the range was from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 per cent, the maximum loss in Southern Pacific. The specialties had declined even more pronounced, ranging from about 2 points in Sugar and Tobacco to 10 points in New York Central. In the group of New York Central, the New York Central and Tennessee Coal each lost 3 1/2 points, People's Gas, Brooklyn Transit and Federal Street each lost 3 and 3 1/2 points, and the market was in a Burlington; the coalers from 1 1/2 per cent in New Jersey Central to 2 1/2 per cent in Reading first preferred. In the Pacific the range was from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 per cent, the maximum loss in Southern Pacific. The specialties had declined even more pronounced, ranging from about 2 points in Sugar and Tobacco to 10 points in New York Central. In the group of New York Central, the New York Central and Tennessee Coal each lost 3 1/2 points, People's Gas, Brooklyn Transit and Federal Street each lost 3 and 3 1/2 points, and the market was in a Burlington; the coalers from 1 1/2 per cent in New Jersey Central to 2 1/2 per cent in Reading first preferred. In the Pacific the range was from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 per cent, the maximum loss in Southern Pacific. 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