

GLIMPSES OF FEZ,

The Sacred City of Morocco.

Special Correspondence.

FEZ, MOROCCO, Sept. 25.—Like most Oriental cities, Fez—or Fas, as the Arabs know it—is situated at the head of a funnel-shaped valley, formed by low hills whose slopes are covered with orchards and orange groves and whose tops are crowned by the ruins of ancient fortifications, the distant view is wonderful. The town is still surrounded by old turreted and battlemented walls, so lofty that nothing within them is visible from outside but the tops of the tallest houses and the slender minarets of countless mosques, shining against the cloudless blue of the African sky like the spears of an advancing army. Through the valley winds the Wad el Jubal, a branch of the Sebou river, which it joins a few miles north of the town; and all along its banks are ruined edifices of every description—broken columns and stone aqueducts of Roman times, cells of hermits, dervishes and other religious fanatics of later date, domed tombs and dilapidated forts. You remember that during the Middle Ages Fez was one of the largest and most magnificent cities of the Mohammedan world, renowned for its schools and scientific institutions, its splendid public buildings, seven hundred

mosques, and the finest library then in existence. After the removal of the court to Morocco, this city gradually declined. But in the eyes of Western Arabs it is still a place of paramount importance, being considered "holy" on account of innumerable tombs and relics.

Entering the town through a narrow slit in one of the lofty towers that flank the walls, you find that the latter are what westerners call "a bluff," being not nearly so formidable as they appear, but fast falling to decay. Before this point is reached in your travels, you have become accustomed to the strange people of Northern Africa, clothed and unclothed, and stately Moors, ragged Jews, naked negroes, Berbers, Bedouins, lepers, snake-charmers, Arab steeds and dromedaries of the desert, no longer unfamiliar to you. The thing that strikes you first in Fez, and strikes with staggering force, is the appalling smell, which seems to have come down from the days of Muley Edris, who founded the place A. D. 808, and to have been gaining in strength and vigor ever since. The explanation is easy. Like all Morocco towns, Fez possesses a system of drainage and an abundant water-supply—nearly every house having a fountain in its courtyard, by which the drains are constantly flushed. But all this waste water has no connection with the sewerage, or rather the lack of it, and the closet of each house is placed just inside the street entrance,

and needs no sign-board to locate it.

Next you are struck by the extreme narrowness of the streets, many of which are mere foot paths in which two persons could not possibly walk abreast. Though Fez is now-day the commercial emporium of the desert, its principal business streets are barely nine feet wide. Considerable trade is carried on by means of caravans with adjoining countries to the south and east, as far as Timbuktu; and on the other side, to the sea and to Europe, by way of Tangier. Hence the narrow ways are packed, not only with people of every race and color, but with many beasts of burden, including vicious camels that snarl and strike out their heels at passers-by and occasionally half-tamed lions and leopards in charge of their keepers. These monarchs of the desert are in great demand in Morocco, for household pets, by those who can afford to pay the price. It is said that the sultan has seven enormous lions, not taken at all. They are kept securely chained by day; but at night they are let loose and permitted to range the court yard, in order to guard the royal harem. A standing army could not be better protection, for no lover is likely to brave those beasts, nor any frail Fatima to run away.

How can one describe a place when there is nothing with which to compare it? The houses are all flat-roofed and generally three storied, with blank walls toward the street. High up in each—too high for eyes to see into—small wooden gratings are set, to admit the air. Each immense dwelling, which is practically a prison for its female inmates, has only one narrow door of heavy wood, strong enough to withstand a siege and always securely barred. When one wishes to enter, he pounds upon it with the hilt of his dagger, a stone, or any convenient missile; until, by and by, a leisurely eunuch shows his face at the little sliding panel and inquiries what is wanted. And then,

a hundred to one, the applicant is not admitted—never unless the master of the house is present and receives him in person. The street door opens into a long, narrow, gone-paved hall, from which other barred doors lead to the inner court-yard. Here all is bloom and beauty, the music of birds and the plashing of fountains. A wide corridor, lined and covered, the "highway" of the harem spend their days, eating sweetmeats and twanging guitars. On the flat top of each house is a shade-roof, trellised and covered with vines. Here carpets are spread in the cool of the day, the ladies of the family congregate and their lord ascends to enjoy their company, his long pipe and the antics of dancing girls, story-tellers or jugglers.

Owing to the narrow streets, the height of the houses, and the habit of stretching trellises, covered with vines, across from side to side, the sun never touches the ground in Fez, except in a few isolated spaces. The consequence is that its naturally dark-skinned citizens, being rarely exposed to the full light of day, have complexions which remind you of partially decomposed potatoes in a dark cellar. For miles you walk under the dense shade of these arbors, all canopied with dust and cob webs. The so-called streets run in straight lines, the entire length of the town, and all are paved with round stones, the size of coconuts. As these lanes are never swept and every householder throws his slops and refuse out of doors, one must pick his way with exceeding care. The Wad el Jubal, (River of Pearls) divides the city into two parts, the new and the old. The latter, called by the Arabs Fas el-bail, lies on the right side of the stream; Fas el-djedid, the newer portion, on the left. By the way, as you value your life, drink no water while in this Holy City! The "River of Pearls" is fordable in every part, the resort of every four-footed and two-legged beast in the place; it receives all the drainage of

the city, and is the general source of the drinking water supply.

The population of Fez is today probably not far from fifty thousand, though it is difficult to say with certainty, as no census has ever been taken. Centuries ago it is said to have had more than half a million citizens, a hundred thousand houses and seven hundred Mosques. The shops are mere cells, elevated about four feet above the ground and so arranged that the merchant, sitting all day long with his legs curled under him, can reach anything in his stock without getting up. As may be imagined, he does not carry a heavy load of goods. Fine carpets, silken fabrics, woolen cloth, girdles, shawls, slippers, Moorish leather-work, swords and daggers, wrought gold and jeweled ornaments are sold. All are made by skilled workmen, in cellars beneath the tiny shops and brought up on demand. There are a great many of these shops, besides a multitude of bazars and at least two hundred caravanserais, or Arab hotels, wherein "accommodation for man and beast" is decidedly in favor of the latter. There are still upwards of two hundred mosques in Fez, each with its tall, painted minaret; and when the way to Mecca happens to be obstructed, the western Arabs find that a pilgrimage to this "Holy City" at daybreak is well. Every morning you are awakened from your "beauty sleep" by the muzzin cry. Pitched in a clear, high key the Muzlin confession of faith resounds like a silver bell. "La ilah il Allah! wa Mohammed ar-Rasul Allah!" It is the call to prayer. Echoed from minaret to minaret, every Moor in the city hears it and instantly spreads his felt cloth on the ground for the performance of his orisons. Standing Meccanwards and bowing to the earth, he goes through the set forms of his religion, no doubt as devout in spirit as any Christian who ever called upon the God of his imagination. It is said that

Mohammedan soldiers die with a smile upon their lips—because they are going straight to the paradise of their dreams, where are hours of glory and an eternity of cherubs, coffee and sweet meats. The largest mosque now standing in Fez is El Caroubien—an immense affair, containing three hundred arched pillars, a dozen gates, two splendid fountains in its marble-paved court and a glass lustre holding five hundred lamps—the spoil of some Christian church. It has also something unique in mosques, viz, a covered place where women may participate in the public prayers—a privilege not accorded to the sex in any other Mohammedan place of worship. But this vast sanctuary, is comparatively deserted, the favorite being the smaller mosque built by Sultan Muley Edris, the founder of Fez, now venerated as a saint, whose remains were buried within it. The latter has the finest and loftiest minaret in all the country and is held so sacred that any criminal may find complete protection within it. No matter how atrocious his crimes, if he can once set foot within the portals of this mosque he is safe from punishment, being under Allah's care, and not even the sultan may drag him out. It is not so easy, however, to gain the refuge, because the "Holy House" is barred by chains stretched across the street leading to it and guarded by soldiers, to keep away Jews and "dogs of unbelievers" generally. The door of the mosque is arched in colored plaster, pink and gold carving, the design including the Moslem creed. Entering, you come first into a carpeted antechamber, with whitewashed walls, surrounded on all sides by mattresses, like an ordinary Moorish sitting room. Beyond this is another similar apartment, and then the tomb, in the third room. In the middle of it stands the venerated sepulchre, shaped like a great chest, about four feet high, canopied with richest-gold-embroidered cloth. Around

the lower edge are eighteen golden censers around the top are fourteen more of similar pattern, and in the center is a tall one, all reputed to be of solid gold. The walls are completely covered with gold-leafed hangings and exquisitely carved and painted in arabesque designs. Hundreds of lanterns and chandeliers of glass and gilt, are suspended from the ceiling. There are besides about two hundred lamps, like large tumblers of glass and gilt, with oil in which wicks are floating. One Moorish lantern is eight feet high, and a candlestick, taller than a man, carries eighteen lights. Among other ornaments are two large "grand" clocks, and half a dozen round, gilded clocks, bearing the names of London makers. Near the sepulchre is a richly ornamented arm-chair, in front of it the pulpit of the imam, who thus, while facing Mecca, faces also the shrine. It is believed the angel Gabriel is wont to visit this holy place from time to time, in human garb, and if any visitor has had the good luck to catch the hom of his garment, his entry into paradise is assured. When a Moor is going to war, he first visits this tomb. He takes from the arm-chair a golden sword whose scabbard is encrusted with diamonds, emeralds and other precious stones, and reads upon its glittering surface in ruby letters, "La ilah il Allah Mohammed-resul Allah." There is no God but God and Mohammed is his messenger. Then he prostrates himself to the ground until his face touches the dust while he says his prayers, whose refrain is "Allah Akbar—God is great."

The body of the mosque, beyond the tomb, is completely ornamented with local tiles, not unlike the Alhambra, in Granada. The prevailing tint is blue, which, intermingled with white and gold, looks cool and inviting. It is needless to say that sacrilegious hands have never trod those tiles, all foot-coverings being left outside the door.

FANNIE B. WARD.

Butterick
Patterns
and
Fashion
Publications
for
December
Now Ready.

Rapid Retailing Order Thanksgiving Week

—OUR NOVEMBER BARGAINS GROW IN INTEREST DAY BY DAY—

This week Every Department has been seized with the desire to outdo its previous Bargain Best and here is the Result: An invincible Combination of High Qualities and Low Prices! Every Special a Splendid Leader! Thousands of eyes will Brighten as They'll Read These Offerings Unequaled in every sense of the word. Carefully Read Every Item. Carefully Consider. Call Early Every Day in the Week except Thanksgiving Day. Send your Mail Orders if you cannot personally call.

Butterick
Patterns
and
Fashion
Publications
for
December
Now Ready.

SILKS! SILKS!

Beautiful Silk Values! Look at them Monday. We Mention a Few.

Only a few from the immense irresistible week's specials—

New Waist Silks.

All the newest of the most fetching waist Silks—in Stripes and fancy Blacks, you will not find their equal—All grouped together, your choice—

98 cents a yard.

Black Peau De Soie.

Two superior qualities, Best Wearing Silk of reliable make—

97 cents and 84 cents a yard.

New Black Goods.

We are showing a handsome assortment of the Celebrated B. Priestley & Co. English Black Dress Goods, all especially arranged and priced for this week's selling—

Drapery Silks.

New and novel designs, just opened. All 30-in wide. Value \$1.00 and \$1.25. Opening Sale Only—

65 cents and 85 cents a yard.

Money-Saving Thanksgiving Offerings.

FROM OUR NOTION DEPARTMENT.

These and many others not mentioned here, will make this the center of attraction in our store this week.

Kantopon Hooks and Eyes in black or white, at a gross six cards for.....5c

Spring Hooks and Eyes, a splendid quality, black or white, per gross, six.....10c

White Cotton Tape, in three different widths at.....1c

Black Enameled Darners, with handle.....3c

Best African Pins, all sizes, full count at.....34c

Elastic, good grade 1/2 inch wide, black or white at.....34c

Mohair Boutache Braid, black white and colors, 24 yards to the piece, at.....12c

Good Tooth Brushes, regular 15 cent grade,.....5c

Cloth knee Protectors save the boys' Stockings, at, a pair.....10c

Sterling Silver Thumbies in Push case, each at.....25c

Roberts' Parabola Milliners Needles, best in the world, at a paper.....5c

Large Cube Pins, all black or assorted colors, at.....5c

I. X. L. Sewing Needles, a good quality, full count at.....1c

No. 2 Shocknet Dress Shields, a splendid grade at.....6c

Indestructible Cloth Covered Dress Shields, excellent quality at.....10c

Best Taffeta Seam Binding, any color, at.....10c

Dress Steels, black, white and colors, 12 to the set,.....6c

Hair Combs, Side Combs, Back Combs, etc., new and pretty designs, worth up to.....10c

F. Auerbach & Bro.



Our Misses' Special, 98 cents.

FINE FOOTWEAR FOR FALL.

ELEGANT ASSORTMENT JUST RECEIVED

We want your Shoe Trade. Our styles and prices will make you a customer.



Our Ladies' Special, \$1.95.

Children's Shoes.

We carry the most complete assortment in the city. OUR SPECIAL LINE FOR THIS WEEK, a child's good shoe. Kid and kangaroo leather, sizes 5 1/2 to 8. Also, a kid, extension sole, lace and button, sizes 8 1/2 to 11, worth \$1.00 to \$1.15. OUR SPECIAL PRICE.....89c

Ladies' Slippers.

No other house show such values. All styles for comfort and dress. OUR SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK, Ladies' 3 point house slipper, low heel, common sense style, sizes 3 to 8. OUR SPECIAL PRICE.....75c

Misses' Shoes.

Fine assortment of low and high cut, heavy and light soles, all leathers. OUR SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK, Misses' kid shoe, extension sole, a good school shoe, lace and button, sizes 11 1/2 to 12. OUR SPECIAL PRICE.....98c

Ladies' Shoes.

Our assortment and prices will please you. All styles and all leathers, heavy and light soles. WE DO NOT CHARGE FANCY PRICES FOR LADIES FINE SHOES. OUR SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK—Ladies' kid and valour calf shoe, extension sole, stylish and serviceable, worth \$2.50. OUR SPECIAL PRICE.....\$1.95

Men's and Boys' Slippers.

Complete new line just received. All styles and prices. OUR SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK—Men's alligator slippers, pat. leather finish. GOOD FOR SERVICE AS WELL AS LOOKS, worth 85c all sizes. OUR SPECIAL PRICE.....69c

Boy's Shoes.

Our boy's shoes are good shoes. We sell best makes only. EVERY PAIR WARRANTED. OUR SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK, Boy's satin calf lace shoe, machine style, extension sole, steel circlets in heel, sizes 8 to 12, worth \$1.65. OUR SPECIAL PRICE.....\$1.29

OUR EXTRA SPECIAL.

Misses' and Children's Rubbers, Best Grade, Croquet Style—worth fully 25c., sizes, 8 1/2 to 2; Our Special Price for One Week.....15c

THANKSGIVING SALE OFFERS

IN OUR

LINEN DEPARTMENT.

SUFFICIENT SAVING POSSIBILITIES TO MAKE THE LINEN SECTION THE Cynosure of ALL SHOPPERS. HERE IS A SHORT LIST OF SURPRISES TO THE CONSUMERS OF EXTRA FINE NAPER.

39c

15-INCH ALL LINEN, BLEACHED SATIN TABLE DAMASK, AN ELEGANT DESIGN, REGULAR RETAIL VALUE \$1.75, GOES THIS WEEK PER YARD.....\$1.42

98c

TWO YARDS WIDE, PURE BLEACHED, ALL LINEN, SATIN TABLE DAMASK, POPPY DESIGN, IRISH MAKE, REGULAR RETAIL VALUE \$1.50, GOES THIS WEEK PER YARD.....\$1.48

\$1.90

Extra fine quality, full Bleached, Table Linen, Irish Manufacture, 2 yards wide, regular retail value \$2.25, goes this week per yard.....\$1.70

A Special Make and Fine Quality Pure Irish Linen Satin Table Damask, 2 yards wide, regular retail value \$2.50, goes this week per yard.....\$1.87

Hand Loom Irish Double Damask Table Linen, 2 yards wide, the choicest of quality and design, regular retail value \$2.75, goes this week per yard.....\$2.15

Leaders for this Coming Week in our

WHITE GOODS DEPT.

WE ASK YOUR JUDGMENT AS TO VALUES OFFERED BELOW.

20 pieces WHITE ENGLISH LONG CLOTH, 12 yards in each Bolt, soft finished, regular price, \$1.50, as a Leader for this coming week, per bolt.....\$1.40

55 Double Bed Size Extra Heavy White Crochet Bed Spreads, in choice Marseilles patterns, well worth \$2.00, as a Leader for this week each.....\$1.50

THANKSGIVING-WEEK SPECIALS

Cloak and Suit Department.

THE ENJOYMENT OF A THANKSGIVING DINNER IS EVER SO MUCH ENHANCED BY THE PLEASURE OF WEARING YOUR NEW TAILOR-MADE SUIT, COAT OR RAGLAN, SPECIAL VALUES IN SILK WAISTS AND SILK SKIRTS.

Silk Waists.

Various styles, all shades and black that sold at \$5.95, \$6.95, \$7.50 and \$8.50, your choice at—

\$5.00

Raglan Top Coats.

Raglans at Auerbach's are different from elsewhere Raglans, a strenuous effort needed to sell the correct thing. Here to be shown and walked out at—

\$12.00, \$16.95, \$22.50 and \$25.00

Silk Dress Skirts.

The latest novelties in aplique and lace effects on flounces and ruffles, taffeta and peau de soie silk. Specials at—

\$14.25 and \$20.00.

Rainy-day Skirts.

One hundred Oxford grey, mel-skirts, wide separate stitched flounce, for three days, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY at—

\$3.33

REGULAR VALUE, \$4.50.

Winter Clothes for the Boys.

Style and Beauty—these two essentials are combined in our goods—we have surpassed even our best efforts of all previous years in the variety of styles, we show in Boys' Clothing for the coming winter, and our prices were never so low before.

We make special mention of our two piece Suits for Boys from 9 to 15 years of age, made up of neat patterns in plain and fancy mixtures. Pants Double seat and Knees. Price.....\$2.50

Long Pants, 3 piece Suits for Youths from 12 to 15 years of age in Black Chevrons and fancy plaids. Price.....\$4.00

Boys' Corduroy Pants in Brown and Tans, 4 to 16 years of age, per pair......50

Boys' Navy Blue Sweaters, all sizes......75

And a large variety of Men's Furnishings in the latest styles at popular prices.

KEEP YOUR KID GLOVES CLEAN and NEW.

THE MAGIC KID GLOVE RUBBER will do it, each—

25 cts.

Ladies Outing Flannel Gowns.

Special for this week.

Ladies' mother Hubbard gown of extra quality outing flannel in pretty stripes, with tucked yoke and trimmed in torchon lace and finishing braid, in all sizes; regular price \$1.35, each for this sale—

99 cts.

In Our MILLINERY SECTION.

You'll find this week very attractive Trimmed millinery features, attractive in style, attractive in new and exclusive designs, attractive in large and comprehensive assortment, attractive in low prices quoted.

\$7.00 hats this week for—\$4.75

\$6.00 hats this week for—\$3.95

White Flannel Attractions!

Bigger Values! Smaller Prices! Decisive Drives for this week's Trading. All Wool Fine White Ballardvale Flannel, 27 inches wide, value 60c, as a Drive for this week's Trading, per yard.....

Double Width Twilled White French Flannel, 1 1/2 yards wide, value, \$1.25, as a Drive for this week's trading, per yard.....

Two of the finest numbers of White Embroidered Skirting Flannels, on the best yard-wide White Flannels, appliqued and cut edge; for infant's or ladies' skirts, value, \$2.50, as a Drive for this week's Trading, per yard.....