

SECRETS OF THE TOILET.

THE ART OF REVIVING FADED CHARM—THE FAVORITE COSMETICS OF OUR BELLES—HOW EYES AND TEETH ARE "IMPROVED"—ARSENIC-EATING AND ITS DANGERS.

[CONCLUDED.] Charles Lamb once said of a lady upon whom the ravages of time were making their marks, and who sought, by the aid of certain cosmetics and remedies, to hide these defects, but merely covered her face, leaving the wrinkles in her neck visible, that she looked like a statue—her face was modern, but her neck was antique.

FADED HAIR. Artificial or false hair has been worn by almost all the civilized nations for thousands of years. The Greeks, Romans, Persians, Assyrians, appear to have been extremely partial to it, and to have worn it in various styles. The blond hair of the Germans was held in high esteem by the Romans, and the fashion of wearing this kind of hair was universally prevalent. It is related of Queen Elizabeth that she wore an abundance of false hair, and it is not stated whether this fashion was followed to any great extent. The custom of powdering the hair is also several centuries old, and originated in France. The fashion prevailed to some extent in our grandmothers' day, but fell into disuse at the beginning of the present century.

THE TEETH. The ancients attached great importance to the teeth in giving an expression to the countenance, and when the natural ones were decayed or lost artificial teeth were inserted in their places. Solomon compares a fine set of teeth to a flock of sheep even, and Jacob, when he blessed Judah, said, "His teeth shall be white with milk." Artificial teeth have been found in Egyptian tombs, and appear to have been made of hard wood of ivory. In England, about the year 1700, the business of making and cleaning teeth was in the hands of jewellers and silversmiths. The climate of our country seems to have an effect on the teeth, causing them to decay at a very early age; and it is no unusual thing to find a set of artificial teeth in the mouth of a young lady of twenty. The first American dentist was John Greenwood, who practiced in New York about the year 1800, and is said to have carved an entire set of teeth in ivory for General Washington. The manufacture of artificial teeth is comparatively of recent date, and is not more than forty years old. Previous to this they were carved from the ivory tusk of the elephant, or the teeth of the hippopotamus, and so obtained by altering the shape of the teeth of sheep and goats. The first mineral teeth were made in Philadelphia in 1838.

The introduction of plates made of gold, platinum, and rubber is familiar to most of us, and the rapid increase of this business is marvelous. It does not always follow that the fashion of artificial teeth will improve the appearance of the mouth, for in many cases the cheeks are sunken and it is necessary to apply cheek-rests, generally called "plumbers," to distend the cheeks.

HOW EYES ARE MADE. Of late years a new branch of business has come into existence, with a view of improving personal appearance. It is the making of artificial eyes. The eye made is a beautiful imitation of the natural eye, and is now modeled upon the particular bulb of the eye, so that it moves as freely as the natural one. It needs great skill to insert one properly, and the business is in the hands of a very few oculists.

While speaking of the eye, a fact may be mentioned which may save some of the persons who try it much anxiety and annoyance. The eyes of the persons in our city who make it a specialty to paint and naturalize "black eyes." They have become so adept in their calling that a disfigured eye can be made to appear all right in very short time. The charge, however, rather high for their services, the price being from five to ten dollars. Nearly all the large apothecaries have now to do this work, and the number of customers, it is known, would cause some surprise. Artificial ears and noses are frequently met with on persons who have lost these indispensable members by accident or otherwise.

ARTIFICIAL RAZING. A dangerous practice for beautifying the personal appearance is rapidly spreading among the fashionable women of this country, which, if not stopped, will be productive of the most alarming results. It is the use of the drug product, a most poisonous, fresh and healthful appearance, together with a certain degree of embossment. It is taken at the commencement in a very small dose, a fraction of a grain, and is continued for some length of time, when the quantity has to be increased until the desired effect is produced. After a person begins to use it there is no turning back, and the account has to be continued until it breaks down the constitution. Finally the point is reached where to continue it is death, to turn back is death also; there is no escape, no means to avert the disaster, and when the poison has been taken to the point of no return, the person is left a mere husk, and a most horrible death, from poisoning is the penalty which all have to pay who begin to use this dangerous drug for enjoyment. W. H. O'D. in New York Evening Mail.

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