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A RUINED GARDEN.

All my roses are dead in my Garden—
What shall I do?
Winds in the night, without pity or pardon,
Came them and slew.

All my song birds are dead in their bowers—
Woe for song cheer!
Robins and thrushes and linnets, found thrushes
Dead, who will sing.

Oh, my thousand rifled and flowerless,
Waste now and drear!
Oh, my Garden! torn and leveled and lowerless
Through all the year.

Oh, my dead birds! such in his sad throes,
As cold and stark;
What was the terrible death that proved those
When alive were dark?

What shall I do for my sweet consolance
The summer song—
For all my garden's divine complacence
Of song and sound?

I will leave my garden for winds to harry
Where once was paces,
Let the beautiles rise and the wind bear merry,
And greatly increase.

But I will go to a land each know not—
A far, still land,
Where no birds come, and where roses blow not
And no trees stand—

Where no fruit grows, where no spring makes
Rich,
But row on row,
Heavy and red, and pregnant with quiet
The poppies blow.

And there shall I be made whole of sorrow,
Have no more pain—
No bitter thought of the coming morrow,
Or days that wane.

—Philip Henkle Marston.

WOMEN WHO WANT TO BE BEAUTIFUL

How the Foolish Creatures Is Gulled by Washes and Lotions.

New York is a paradise for vendors of nostrums for women, treatises on how to reduce the flesh or increase the wonderful pale of the body, hair removers, bleaching processes for the hair and a score of other things, all having in view the making of women more beautiful than they are.

There are scores of places in New York for the removing of superfluous hair from the face, for bleaching hair, for the breadwood of the skin, and there are no end of patent medicines sold for all sorts of purposes, the end in view being to make the human form somewhat more divine. The men and women who run these beautifying parlors reap large rewards for little labor. The more preposterous the problem is of making women beautiful, the easier it is to furnish some high sounding medicine or cosmetic or wash at a large price. Thus it comes that there are fortunes for the proprietors of these pleasant and foolish women spend no end of money in trying to remain young or to add to their physical charms.

There is one place in New York where a fortune is made every year by the sale of a wash that is said to remove freckles. Now everybody knows that a freckle on a woman's face is the one thing that will keep her awake day and night. There is no war that she can forget it. Sleeping disfigures of it, and waking she is constantly rubbing it with some sort of compositions that has been recommended and that usually costs a dollar or two a bottle. Perhaps after the lotions for the face there is nothing in which so much barefaced fraud is exhibited as in preparations for the hair—washes to make gray hair black, washes to keep the hair from falling out, washes to make straight hair curly, washes for a score of other real or imaginary troubles that women imagine afflict their crowns of glory. It costs only a little money to put up some dirt of a wash, giving it a high sounding name, that can be sold to foolish women for almost any purpose. It is in this way that the proprietors of beautifying parlors make large fortunes, for after one lotion or wash becomes so well known that its fraud is perfectly evident, it is put up in another kind of bottle, given another name, and the sale of it continues.

As an evidence of how foolish some women are where personal beauty is being considered, I heard a day or two ago of a young lady of twenty who went into one of these beautifying parlors determined to find out if there was any remedy for decreasing the size of her feet. She exhibited to the woman in charge well formed feet, but complained that she thought they were too large for her body and besides were not beautiful. Couldn't something be done, either to keep them from growing larger, or, if possible, to reduce them in size a trifle. Of course the woman who makes a fat living out of gulling silly women declared that it was the easiest thing in the world to make large feet small. So, the dainty miss took off her silken stockings, her feet were bathed in a lotion of some kind and then tightly wrapped with pieces of sheet iron, and she was asked to return on a fortnight for a look.

She suffered the most excruciating agony, and was told that a daily repetition of the bandaging process was necessary, and to take would have to return once a day for at least a couple of months before there could be any noticeable decrease in the size of her pedal extremities. In consideration of the fact that she would have to call each day for such a length of time she would only be charged $10 a bill. The silly girl paid the money unhesitatingly, is daily suffering the tortures of the Inquisition, and is looking forward to the no distant time when she will be able to wear a No. 1 shoe.—Foster Coates in New York Mail and Express.

Women Novelists.

In the United States no one thinks of asking whether or no a book is by a woman, so completely has the tradition of the difference in dignity between the sexes been lost. In France the tradition flourishes, but in France literature has another perspective, a different air. Among ourselves, I hasten to add, and without undertaking in the least to go into the question of the gain to literature by the change, the position achieved by the sex formerly overshadowed has been a well fought battle in which that sex has returned again and again to the charge.

In other words, if women take up on fiction, for instance, an equal share in the public eye, it is because they have been remarkably clever. They have carried the defense line by line, and they may justly protend that they have made the English novel much longer.—Henry James in English Illustrated Magazine.

Better Than Under the Mattress.

Ringway—What are you walking over that rug so much for? Aren't you afraid you'll wear it out?

Featherstone—You don't understand, old man. My trousers are under that rug being creased.—Cloth-ier and Furnisher.

SMOKELESS POWDER IN WAR.

It Gives Many Advantages to the Side Having the Attack.

The introduction of smokeless powder has lost considerable to do with a change of tactics on the field of battle. In the decline of the smoke screen on both sides, the company officers not only find it easier to work together, but can control their men and judge the effect of their fire on the enemy to a far greater degree than was formerly possible. From their point of view this increased power of control more than compensates the attack for the increased facility of concealment smokeless powder confers on the defense. It is true that the latter also profits by the more increased power of control, but they argue that from the nature of things the defense, striving only to prevent being beaten, whereas the attack fights with the determination to win, the latter is in a position to make 'as better use of this new powder than the 'fense. Put in another form, it comes to this: The hearing and more accurate the fire whistling over a trench, the harder it is to make them raise their heads over it to take aim. Smokeless powder makes it easier for the attack to deliver such a fire; hence the difficulties of the defense will be increased.

Further, in the absence of smoke, men stationary on the defense cannot escape the depressing influence of the dead and wounded lying around them, but the attack leaves all these evidences of the fight behind it. So here again the advantage is on its side.

With reference to the question of the use of smokeless powders by the artillery, the general idea seems to be that it was all a gain to the side which thought more of killing its enemy than of avoiding being killed itself. It unquestionably facilitates the maneuvers of the artillerists within the battery, permits of continuous firework at the most rapid rate, for no smoke interferes with the laying of the guns, and above all things clears the hearts of the men by enabling them to see the results of their fire.

As a means of concealment it is of no use at all, for even at extreme ranges of 3,000 yards and upward the flash of discharge is always distinctly visible, and at fighting ranges the flash enables one to note exactly the position of the enemy's guns. This was not always possible with the old powders, for the smoke obscured the object and prevented one's picking up an exact point to aim at.

The artillery will be far from regretting the loss of the two clouds which hung, the one in front of their guns and the other in front of the enemy's guns, smoke is a cover added to that furnished by the ground, and no one has ever been anxious for his opponent to have cover which he himself could not turn to advantage. If both are deprived of this cover victory will belong to him who, all else being equal, can most skillfully supply the deficiency.

Maneuvers will hereafter probably take place over larger areas before actual fighting begins, and something of an Indian's craft and natural resources will be needed on the part of staff officers. Smoke has been so good a cover, on many occasions that its absence will impose new conditions, and natural cover will have to be taken in to be extensively utilized. With the vanishing poetry of the smoke battle the prose of a new era will begin, in which combat will be more like a game of chess in view of the pieces as a whole, and more dispositions of skill qualities and virtues will be wanted.—Iron Age.

Pocketknives and Scissors.

Any hardware store clerk will tell you that there is a marked falling off in the demand for pocketknives and a very conspicuous increase in the demand for pocket scissors. Up until recently almost every man carried a knife, not for the purpose of protection, but to have it handy for sharpening pencils or any similar purpose. Now, however, the fashion has given to keeping a knife always on the desk, and as the knives are generally of a high quality they are preferred to those carried in the pocket. On the other hand the convenience of pocket shears is so great and they are now made so cheaply and are so convenient that formerly that men now carry them who never thought of doing so until quite recently.—Interview in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Movable Curtain Pole.

A firm in Birmingham, England, is manufacturing a new style of pole for hanging portieres in such a manner that the curtain will not interfere with opening the door. One of the brackets supporting the pole is attached to the door frame, the other being fastened to the door itself. A joint in the pole so the time of the hinge of the door allows the pole to swing back with the door when opened. The pole is held loosely in the bracket on the door and slides over a small roller in the bracket when the door is moved.

One of these fixtures, all brass, with not more than quarter of an inch in diameter, sells for about $1.50 all complete.—Philadelphia Record.

Sweet Solicitude.

Husband—My dear, the air is very damp tonight. You'd better wear your furs.

Wife—I have them ready.

Husband—And the room is cloudy. A little exposure often leads to sore throat, and sore throat leads to diphtheria, a most dangerous disease. Wear your thick rubbers, too, and good thick shoes, and warm gloves, and, my love, I think you'd better wear a warm veil. One can't be too careful when one's life insurance is in dispute between the sexes.—New York Weekly.

Giving an Order.

Small Boy—Mamma wants you to send her up quarter of a pound of coffee and a pound of tea.

Careful Grocer—Isn't it a quarter of an and a pound of coffee she would?

Small Boy—Well, it's somethin' that way, and—oh, I forgot; send us up a barrel of onions and half a dozen Bermuda potatoes and a peck of eggs now I don't forget.—Good News.

An Invalid Mother Slip for a Blessing.

I know some homes where a sick mother makes herself a blessing. She is in some sense an circumstances alive. Would Phillips' wife not always be an invalid, but she held him to his post of duty. The best faith cure in the world to try cure—doing as well as we can for others. Don't talk about your adjuncts, but about your healthy limbs; about your blessings. Count up what you have, not what you have not.—Mary E. Spaner in St. Louis Globe.

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