

Downers Grove Reporter.

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DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.

A FEW cigarettes, more or less, with a cup of black coffee thrown in, would undoubtedly have averted that revolution in Peru.

We feel quite safe in saying that the Pacific railroads will pay their debts to the government—when apples grow on blackberry vines.

From all accounts some of the sacred concerts now being given in New York are called sacred because there is nothing sacred about them.

YALE's latest attempt to freeze out the university of Pennsylvania arises mainly from the fact that for several years she has been doing her thinking with her feet.

It is hoped that the weather man will take prompt and frigid measures to discourage the spring poet habit, which has developed alarmingly in the last few weeks.

The late Frederick Douglass was undeniably a handsome old man. He had as much dignity and impressiveness as Charles Sumner, who was the ideal statesman in appearance.

THERE is nothing French about the Kentucky duel. Usually the principals do not talk long before the engagement, and usually they are not able to talk about the trouble after the shooting begins. The Kentucky duel, like the favorite Kentucky beverage, is warm and does its work effectively.

THE monarchist newspapers of Brazil recently published a list of twenty alleged victims of the republic's brutality and when confronted by the men, alive and well, refused to retract. This experience is a little worse than American papers are sometimes subjected to after publishing obituaries of live men.

It is to be hoped that the pope is not dependent for his livelihood upon the new record breaking 971-carat diamond that is said to have been sent to him by the president of the Transvaal republic. It is not so much the utter inappropriateness of the alleged gift as the improbability of the story that prompts the hope.

It is true, perhaps, that some changes are needed in the base ball rules, but what is more needed is a set of umpires with nerve enough to enforce the rules. Article I in the umpire's regulations should teach him that his first and imperative duty is to the game and the paying public, and not to a band of angry and bawling players.

THE American oyster has been slandered. An investigation shows that he is not affected by the germs of typhoid fever, but is a healthy and healthful creature, good in every month with or without an "r." The discovery that the American oyster is good in August was made by a man who tried it under the belief that it is spelled "Orgust."

THE desire of Cubans to free their island from the yoke of Spain has reached a degree of intensity that means revolution. In the inevitable struggle for freedom that will place the Cubans in line with most of the peoples of the Western hemisphere, money will be contributed by the large colony of Cubans who are in successful business in New York.

UNDER the laws of New Jersey flogging is prohibited in the public schools. This, perhaps, is the reason why the principal of a Paterson school has been arrested for beating his wife until she is black and blue. There are teachers who must take it out of somebody, and if they are not allowed to expend their irritability on pupils they are disposed to expend it on members of their own family.

A FINANCIAL officer of the university of Chicago says that its capital or endowment is \$8,000,000 and its income \$600,000 annually. It transpires incidentally that one of John D. Rockefeller's large donations was in Northern Pacific five per cent gold bonds, then a gilt-edged security, but the interest on which since has been defaulted. Mr. Rockefeller makes good the amount of the interest each year to the university. Standard Oil can afford it.

Nor content with defaming our modest oyster, quarreling with our beef and excluding our pork and wheat, our amiable British friends have begun war on our cotton. The only case that they can make against it has nothing to do with its quality. That is beyond their reach. They pretend, however, that it is poorly pressed and inferior in that respect to cotton from India and Egypt. It is evident that our neighbor is not willing to lose a point against us that a little mendacity can win.

THE discovery is announced from Vienna that hypodermic doses of Koch's tuberculin will cure insanity. What a boom it will be should it also cure crankery. A remedy that will extract wheels from the head would be quite as serviceable as one to remove tubercles from the lungs.

THE cost of administration of the Gould estate is \$200,000, and the executors are to receive \$40,000 per annum each. The poor Go dits seek to deduct these sums from the principal before the estate is taxed.

INCANDESCENT LAMPS.

Interesting Demonstration of the Extent of Fire Risk.

A few very simple experiments that any one can make will answer this question in a fairly conclusive way and will furnish an interesting demonstration of the extent of incandescent lamp fire risks under certain conditions, says Cassier's Magazine. Those who lack the opportunity to make the trials for themselves will find the results which they undoubtedly would have obtained in a report submitted a short time ago to John Lindsay, chief of the St. Louis fire department, by A. J. O'Reilly, supervisor of city lighting. The investigation which Mr. O'Reilly made was prompted by a recent fire in that city, supposed to have been started by an incandescent lamp lying against a couple of wooden poles, and his conclusions, which have since been borne out by similar tests repeated several times, are decidedly to the effect that an incandescent lamp may, under favorable circumstances, cause a fire. Where the ignitable material was in a vertical position and the lighted lamp simply rested against it, Mr. O'Reilly found that in the case of white pine a spot one inch in diameter and having a light-brown color appeared after about four hours. In the case of varnished oak, well seasoned, the varnish became blistered in three minutes and blackened in about fifteen minutes. The wood had the appearance of being charred at and near the point of contact, but was not ignited. A dry, white pine board began to smoke after forty minutes, but, through breaking of the lamp, the test stopped at that point. With a lamp incased in two thicknesses of muslin, the latter commenced to scorch in one minute, in three minutes gave off considerable smoke, and at the end of six minutes, when the muslin cover was removed from the lamp and fresh air reached its interior, it burst into flame. Where a lamp was laid on inflammable material, the effect seemed to be more rapid, due probably to the pressure exerted by weight of the lamp.

A VIRGINIA FEUD.

Three Men Meet Death with Their Swords.

According to reports just received, three men were shot to death and a fourth mortally wounded in a fight between the Smith-Cox factions, near Osborne Gap, Dickinson county, Va., last week. The men involved in the difficulty had long been regarded as terrorists in the neighborhood in which they resided and for years the families had been deadly enemies. According to the best information obtainable, Robert and Sam Smith had been at the Gap and were on their way home when they met Ben and Lem Cox on the road, about two miles from town. All four were under the influence of liquor and were literally boiling for a fight. The Smiths it is said, drew their revolvers first and commanded their enemies to surrender. Instead, the Cox boys jerked out their weapons and then a general fight was begun. The battle, it is said, lasted for nearly half an hour, and when the smoke cleared away Robert and Sam Smith and Ben Cox were lying dead on the road, while Lem Cox is badly wounded that his death is expected hourly. The killing of the men, if subsequent accounts bear out the report in full, puts an end to the two families that had long been prominent in criminal circles in this section of the country. There were originally eight Smith boys, and all of them met their death in fights similar to the one of Wednesday. Other Cox boys were also killed several years ago in a battle between men of their stamp. Ben Cox enjoyed the reputation of having killed five men and his brother Lem had twice been tried for murder. They all reside back in the mountains and were regarded as very dangerous men, a reputation to which they were certainly entitled.

HE IS A RICH MAN NOW.

A Poor German's Lucky Discovery Gets \$1,000,000 for a Rheumatic Cure.

Chicago, Feb. 22.—(Special).—Less than one year ago Frank Schrage did not possess a dollar in the world outside of the small income derived from a small drug business, and only a few years ago he was a poor German immigrant. To-day Mr. Schrage can be called a millionaire, as the result of a discovery he has made of "Schrage's Rheumatic Cure." A syndicate paid him \$100,000 cash for his discovery and arranged to pay him \$100,000 a year until he has received \$1,000,000 in all.—Philadelphia Press. Swanson Rheumatic Cure company, 157-163 Dearborn st., Chicago, are the sole proprietors of this celebrated remedy. Never fails. Testimonials free. Write to-day. "Schrage's \$100,000 Rheumatic Cure." A few good agents wanted.

Yak's Bite May Cause Death.

One black and white cat brought trouble enough for a whole community into the home of J. Frank Brown, a salesman of Camden. The cat is dead and Mrs. Brown is in a serious condition. About two weeks ago as she was walking across the room Mrs. Brown trod on the cat's tail. The animal gave vent to a loud and vigorous squeak or protest, turned upon his mistress, and savagely buried his fangs into the calf of her right leg. The wound was cauterized, but Mrs. Brown rapidly grew ill. She was attacked at times with fits of vomiting and purging, while her temperature and pulse ran up considerably above the normal. These fits left her in such a weakened and nervous state that she is in a serious condition.

Made a Difference.

He—Here is a picture of my wife. She—Before or after taking? He—What do you mean? Before or after taking what? She—You.

Three Children Perish.

Three boys, aged respectively 4, 7, and 9, perished in their burning home at Lexington, Mount Morency county, Mich., last week while their parents were away attending a dance. The boys were children of Eli Seymour, a shoe dealer. The origin of the fire is a mystery. Some think the house was set on fire while others think an accident happened to the stove when the children were asleep.

Too Late.

Shednickle—After you lost your money did you see the police? Piebelt—No; what good would I have been to them?

NOTES OF THE MODES

CURRENT NEWS OF FASHION'S FANCY.

Short, Jaunty Coats Are Now All the Rage in London—A Charming Gown of Pale Green Chiffon—Ladies' Basque Waist.



HORT, JAUNTY coats in the mode are now all the rage in London, and will be shown here among the advanced spring styles. The military appearance which the collar and the decoration of braid imparts entitles it to the name of the French hero, whose history is now a fad in literary circles.

This military style of garniture is one of the newest, and is steadily growing in popular favor for all kinds of garments. The coat, as here illustrated, is of rich, tan-colored cloth, black braid in two distinct styles being used in the decoration. The adjustment is close-fitting, with the single bust darts in front, the curving center seam in back being finished in stylish coat-laps, the

A crush collar of silk finishes the neck. The lower portions of sleeves are faced with the crimped silk, full empire puffs of the crepe standing out stylishly at the tops.

When not convenient to use the crimped silk, the front can be gathered or plaited. Accordion plaited silk is much used in this way.

Rich combinations of lace, crepe or nousseine-de-sole, and silk, tulle, cashmere or Henrietta can be decorated to suit individual fancy.

This will also be found a good model for cutor fabrics, and the full yoke, collar and brettele can be omitted if so preferred.

The Woman Shopper.

"I went out the other day," said a woman who is well up on the subject of fine fabrics, "and spent a good many hours trying to find some all-linen pocket handkerchiefs in the more ordinary grades. After trying myself out and, I say it with some reason for dissatisfaction, very nearly losing my temper, gave it up.

"It is a very strange thing to me that we cannot get medium grade pure linen handkerchiefs any more. They seem to be entirely out of the market, and in their place we have mixtures of linen and something else, what, I am sure, I do not know—probably cotton. In half a dozen stores there were marked 'warranted all linen.' Any judge of good goods who has invested in these things things knows them to be a delusion and

DIAMOND CUTTING.

GIVING ADDED LUSTRE TO THE FIERY STONE.

American Workmen Superior in the Laboratory—Hebrews Have Almost a Monopoly of the Business and Are the Best Workmen.

Very few people who are fortunate enough to be able to wear diamonds know what amount of labor has been expended upon them from the time they were mined until finally they appear in the show-cases of the jewelers ready for use. Fewer still are aware of the fact that the labor of the cutter and polisher adds at least ten dollars a karat to the value of the uncut diamond. These would secure at the idea of taking a seemingly finished and polished brilliant and splitting it into two pieces, doubting the expediency of the act on common sense grounds. The loss in weight from cutting is over one-half, but it so adds to the value of the diamond that a stone of one karat, costing in the rough perhaps \$10, would sell for \$110 when cut and polished, and the refuse or leavings from the cutting might bring a tidy sum besides. The value, however, does not depend alone upon the weight of the stone, but it is affected also by blemishes and impurity of color. It is the stone with a blemish, which is sometimes left in it, in the hope that the ignorant and inexperienced purchaser may not discover it, which goes to the diamond cutter the second time, that the connoisseur thinks needs cutting and necessarily reducing to take the blemish out of and thus increase its brilliancy and value.

Less than fifteen years ago two diamond cutters cut and finished all the rough diamonds, which came to this market. In fact, there was not a sufficiency of work even for these two workmen, for the brilliants were nearly all imported in a finished state, ready for setting in any shape for the wearers. At the time the difference between a diamond imported and the one cut and finished here was so marked that the demand for stones finished here was greatly increased, and within five years some six more diamond cutters had established themselves in New York, and all had more work than it was possible for them to do. The eight diamond cutters increased and polished at least one-fourth of all the diamonds sold in the city of New York, and the superior excellence of their work was recognized by all dealers and became the envy of the other workers in Holland, who had theretofore had almost a complete monopoly of the trade. This showed that some things might be done on this side of the water better than the workmen of Europe could do.

By the process of "relieving" the irregularities of the rough stones are clipped off and the general form of the diamond is secured, but without the possession of any of the circles which separate the facets. These chip-off pieces, if of suitable color and without flaws, are used for making what are denominated "rose" diamonds. What are called in the parlance of the trade "clashes" of the diamond are cut by the rubbing together of two stones, and when this process is completed and the stones have been sufficiently rubbed down, they resemble two irregular glass pebbles, but ground on the facets so that there is no sign nor any suggestion even of brilliancy. In fact they are entirely without lustre or beauty, and to the inexperienced eye worthless pieces of glass. But when the polishing of these dull-looking stones is finished, and the process completed, there is a vast difference in the appearance of the diamonds.

In polishing the stone, each face of the diamond is exposed, in turn, to the surface of an iron wheel revolving two-thirds and more times a minute, while the stone is kept saturated with oil and diamond dust. This gives the diamond its wonderful brilliancy. By our American processes, says the Philadelphia Times, with the assistance of American inventions, the work of diamond cutting is so vastly superior to that of the foreigners that most of the diamonds which reach this country in a finished state or what Europeans call finished, are not salable until they have passed through the hands of the American workman to render them equal, in any respect, to stones cut and polished here.

In the trade there are many men who do not cut the diamond, but simply direct how the stone must be cut to get the most value and the most brilliancy out of it. This is a very important part of the business and requires a complete knowledge of the stone in the rough and a fine delicacy of appreciation of the peculiarities of the diamond, for there are no two diamonds just alike in the rough. It is only when finished that they may be paired for earrings and studs, as well as for pendants and other pieces of jewelry. It happens sometimes that the first cutting produces a comparatively dull stone, and that a skillful cutter takes the same stone, and, although reducing it in size, increases its value by producing far greater brilliancy. Then, again, sometimes a part of a stone may be so hard that it cannot be polished, and it may be remarked that it is not always the hardest stones that are the most brilliant, although the harder the diamond the longer it will retain its brilliancy.

Up to a few years ago it was estimated that of every 20,000 Jews in the city of Amsterdam more than 12,000 were either directly or indirectly dependent upon the trade of diamond cutting for a living. It was in the year 115 that the cutting of diamonds in Europe first began to be

practiced. It is noticeable that in the city of Amsterdam the men engaged in this trade are very poorly paid, although the greatest skill and severest honesty are required.

Concerning the shapes in which diamonds are cut, as a rule, it may be said that there are three forms, namely, the table, the rose and the brilliant. The last has superseded the other two, save for inferior stones. The brilliant, so called, is a double pyramid or cone, cut off at the top to a large plane or table and at the bottom, directly opposite, to a small one called "the culet."

NO USE TRYING.

It is Impossible to Escape That Silly Girl.

It was a tiny thing—merely a small sparkle set in a golden circlet—but somehow or other it had made a different girl of her. She twirled her finger nervously, but with a mechanical movement that bespoke two days of unceasing practice. Then she dropped both hands in her lap, looked sidewise at her dearest friend and ejaculated, "Say!"

The dearest friend appeared bored and murmured a very weary "Well?" "I've always said," declared she of the diamond ring, "that if I was ever so fortunate as to find a man who was good enough to fall in love with me and I became engaged I would set a glowing example, the like of which has never lived."

"I'm hah," said the dearest friend, with no more animation than if a photograph was addressing her. "Yes, that's what I said," the engaged girl continued undaunted. "But do you know" here the chatterer dropped her voice to a friendly, confidential tone "do you know it's perfectly awful, this trying not to make a mummy of one's self?"

"Indeed?" the dearest friend queried, condescendingly.

"Yes, it is, and I find that I afford myself a vast amount of amusement. Now, for instance, this morning when I was coming down on the train I was thinking about about what about the weather you know and I hadn't the slightest idea how many stations we had passed until I suddenly awakened to the fact that everybody was gazing at me. I straightened my hat and retied my veil, but still they stared. All at once I thought that perhaps my new diamond was blinding their poor eyes, but that wasn't the cause of the impudently ogling match because I had my gloves on. After I had given up trying to locate the eccentricity that attracted so much attention, I accidentally glanced into a mirror, and well I nearly fainted, that's all! Why, the expression on my face was something ludicrous. I looked like a comic-opera lady or a newspaper illustration. I had the silliest grin you ever beheld. Upon my word, I hope I won't make such a spectacle of myself again."

The dearest friend raised her eyebrows ever so slightly, said the Chicago Record. Then she yawned and said, "Poor dear, all engaged folks do that way. There's no use in trying to ward off these spells of foolishness, mindless. It can't be done."

Dr. Holmes' Little Case.

Dr. Holmes is usually very prompt at the Harvard medical school, but he was missed one morning. Finally he entered the room hurriedly, glanced around with a smile and said, "Gentlemen, I know I am late, but this is a little stranger at my house." And then, with an expression such as only Holmes' face could assume, he continued: "Now can any one of you tell me what well-known business firm in Boston he is like?" There was no answer. "He is little and brown," said the doctor, with a twinkle in his eye. That was a good advertisement for Little & Brown, Argonaut.

RELATIVE SIZE OF COUNTRIES.

Newfoundland and Ohio are nearly of the same size, 190,000 square miles. Great Britain has 121,000 square miles, being a little larger than Arizona. Iceland, 60,000 square miles, makes only 1,000 of being as large as Kentucky. The Orange Free State has 11,000 square miles, and is exactly the size of Ohio. Hawaii has 6,000 square miles, the combined size of Connecticut and Delaware. England has an area of 21,000 square miles or a little smaller than Arkansas.

SPECIMENS FOR MUSEUMS.

Mr. Nunnally, an old citizen of Clarke county, Georgia, has a pair of suspenders, buckles he has worn for fifty-six years.

Probably the most extraordinary journal in the world is published weekly at Athens. It is written entirely in verse, even to the advertisements. Miss Ellen Tickle of Heno, Butler county, Ohio, is said to be the smallest full-developed woman now living. She is thirty-one years old and weighs but twenty-eight pounds.

In excavating the Roman villa at Doreth, Kent, a pane of window glass has been discovered, the first found in England. It is broken, but the pieces show that its size was nine inches by twelve. The Milwaukee museum has recently been the recipient of a collection of Cuban musical instruments. They were given by Miss Elizabeth Blankinton, who collected these interesting and valuable instruments during a recent trip through Cuba. The collection consists of twenty-one musical instruments, one quiver of bamboo and five very fine mats.



ONE OF THE LATEST SPRING HATS.

side back gorges meeting it in fashionable coat-plaits below the waist-line. Curved pocket openings in front are handsomely decorated with braid, the closing being accomplished with brandebourgs to match. The sleeves are bouffant at the top, presenting the drooping appearance now in vogue, the wrists being stylishly finished with a simulated cuff to match of braid. Coats in this style will be made on suits for early spring wear, warmly interlined, and finished with a rich lining of taffeta, sarah or broadie. Proper care in pressing the seams on the wrong side (laying a damp cloth between the material and iron) will enable the homedressmaker to produce a garment equal to the best tailor-made. Whenever braid is applied it must be heavily pressed in the same way, but not ironed. All styles of cloth, tweed, cheviot, vicuna, whipcord, melton, diagonal or other seasonable coating or suitings will develop handsomely by the mode.—N. Y. Ledger.

A Tea Gown. Here is a very charming gown of pale-green crepon, with front of



crimped China silk in pale pink, green and white. Full graduated bretteles of lace cross the shoulders, the full square yoke being outlined with pale-pink satin ribbon, long streamers of which fall from the razzette at the left front. The stylish arrangement is made over fitted linings that close in center front. The yoke and full front can also be made to close in center or at the shoulder and left front under rosette, as here shown.

a snare. They may contain some linen, but it is in some way intermixed with cotton that the surface of the fabric becomes woolly and disagreeable as soon as it is washed.

"Pure linen has a satin sheen and never loses its gloss as long as there is a bit of it left. I should think there would be a demand for good and inexpensive goods of this sort. The prices for mixtures are high enough to warrant the use of first-class materials. Thirty-five or 50 cents ought to buy a good linen handkerchief, but, with the rarest exception, those I have lately seen only part linen, although the clothing salesperson will assure you again and again that there is not one thread of cotton in them. In a way this may be true, for all of the threads are mixed, but this is a quibble unworthy of a first-class establishment."

A Stylish Coat.

An exceedingly stylish new coat is made of dull green broad cloth, combined with black moire and polka-dotted silk and trimmed with narrow-sabot. The cloth part of the garment ends abruptly at the waist line and the full coat skirts are of the silk. The front is arranged in the full double-twisted reverse of the silk and cloth, combined with a judicious mixture of the fur, which also furnishes all edges, including that of the cloth jacket effect at the waist.

Fashion Notes.

Waists with velvet yokes are trimmed with bead fringe and tassels. One very elegant model is made with a yoke of cardinal velvet. The lower portion is of Japanese crepe of the same color. The yoke is cut square, and on each of the front corners is a large passementerie ornament in cardinal and jet beads. Strands of beads of the two colors fall to the waist-line from each of these ornaments. The belt is embroidered in jet and cardinal beads, and there are wash ends, with a narrow pattern in beads, running down either side, and a bead fringe at the ends to match.

A satin cape with elaborate embroidery is a work of art. The ground is in shades of brown and very dark red. There is a collar of brown velvet, lined with satin of the color of the cape, and this collar is edged with lace about two inches wide. As a heading to the lace there is a band of brown head passementerie about an inch wide. The collar of the cape is of satin and velvet and a rose ruching. A black velvet cape is elaborately embroidered with jet, and has a fringe of jet and silk strands. The fringe is without heading, and is set under the edge of the velvet. The collar is of velvet, lined with black satin, the edge elaborately embroidered in jet. A ruching of velvet and black thread lace finishes the neck.