FOR THE LADIES.

A Budget of Facts and Fancies.

A PORTRAIT.

Madame, at sound of Gabriel's trump,
Would give no vulgar start nor jump,
But slowly rise with tranquil grace,
Lay all her pinion plumes in place,
Make them secure with safety-pins,
Account to Heaven for her sins,
And take the paradisic road,
A charming angel a la mode.
—*Edith Lapham in the Century.*

Twenty years ago there were but 12 women doctors in the United States, now there are over 800

A Zenana library has been established at Calcutta, and is said to be largely resorted to by the ladies for whose benefit it is established.

Mrs. Mark Hopkins, formerly of California, is building a stone dwelling house at Great Barrington, Mass., which will cost $1,000,000.

Women are commonly employed as painters and paper-hangers in West Cornwall, England, learning the trade from each other, without serving a regular apprenticeship.

A lady appeared at Lord's cricket ground on July 11th in what may be fairly termed an evening costume. She wore a black lace dress, a yellow satin cuirass bodice, brocaded with black, cut low—very low—and fitted into the neck with black lace. Her tight-fitting black lace sleeves reached down to her elbows, being joined by black gloves. A mass of fluffy yellow hair, cut short, was nearly hidden beneath a huge black hat. The lady was not slender. She created a furor wherever she went.

The Prevalent Toy.

The prevalent toy of the Long Branch girls is a scent bottle. It is an inch thick, and from six to eight inches long. The material is glass, elaborately cut, and sometimes trimmed with gold or silver. It gives its possessor something to do with her hands, and in that way serves the purpose of a cane or crush hat in the grip of a dandy. She carries it with her at the dinner table, in the surf bath, in the ball room, and I've no reason to suppose that she doesn't take it to bed with her. She flirts with it as with a fan; she sniffs daintily at its unscrewed top, to give an impression of extreme sensibility and fragility. She poses with it like the fairy queen of a burlesque with a wand; and she could, on occasion, use it as a club to brain him who would do her harm. Although I think it is more man-subduing in the hands of the frivolous belle than in a cane or cue held by the stalwart Georgia wonder, and a great deal more magnetic.

Fashion Tints and Hints.

Pure white handkerchiefs are again en regle. They are plain, with homestitched border for morning wear, but elaborately embroidered for dress. Some of these handkerchiefs cost $18 apiece. The plainest are $2. A ragged edge, stimulated by embroidery, is considered a desirable style.

Hosiery has abandoned its carnival of color, and also its sombre black hues, and the tinted Balbriggan stocking has now the supremacy in fashion, or a pure white.

Ladies' reticules or hang-bags are going out of style, or will be carried only by business women. They offer too many temptations to the snatch-thieves to appropriate them. Besides, fashionable idleness has decreed that they look too much like the vendors of soap or corn-salve. The ladies who possess the handsome new Japanese reticule with birds and butterflies of color on its enamelled sides can make wall pockets of them. In the economy of nature nothing is lost.

The natural complexion will be worn next season. As the out-of-town people come home they will be anxious to assure their friends by a fine tan color that they have been to the seashore.

Small talking parrots are the favorite pet birds of young ladies this season, and the cute dealers are teaching them to say "Kiss me, darling!" in a commercial way, which insures a rapid sale for them.

The old fashion of stamping melted sealing wax on the envelope has come in again, a fashion that, in America at least, has been obsolete for nearly half a century. At all the stationery counters boxes which contain several sticks of sealing wax in popular colors are shown with a handsome silver or gold bronze seal upon which may be engraved the initial letter or the family crest, as ordered.

The taper, the stick of wax and the daintily engraved seal are now requisites of the fashionable writing table. To seal a letter with nicety, take plenty of time. When the letter is ready, and the taper lighted, lay the seal on the table at your right hand. Then hold the wax above the flame of the candle and apply it to the envelope with a circular motion; moisten the seal and hold the envelope to the flame a moment to soften the wax; stamp squarely with the seal, leaving a clear, perfect impression. It requires practice to do even so small a thing as this appears to be with neatness and dispatch. It is said that an English apprentice is not allowed to take a proof impression of a seal until he has worked at the business for two years. As soon as the custom is again universally adopted of using the sealing-wax method on letters, the post-office authorities will probably shut down on the whole business, as it largely increases the trouble of handling letters and adds tons to the weight of postal matter. Care should be taken in using the taper. It will be remembered that the lovely and lamented wife of the poet Longfellow burned herself to death in her husband's library while sealing a letter. This had much to do with the custom going out of fashion here.

Women as Artists.

If, in the domain of art, we wish to come to a fair judgment of the yet undeveloped possibilities of woman, it will be instructive to go back to the remote past and contemplate her actual achievements during the centuries in which she had the most feeble chance, by reason of an almost universal infidelity concerning her capabilities in any other functions than those of maternity and housewifery. In gathering up the scraps of history which help to illustrate my theme, it became a part of my duty, some years ago, to count, one by one, the names of all the artists of all ages mentioned in the four volumes of Muller's "Kunstler-Lexicon," and I found the grand total to be twelve thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight, of which two hundred and forty-three were the names of women. Of this small fraction—less than one-fiftieth—only the most insignificant minority received any extended biographical notice, chiefly, no doubt, by reason of the fact that the large majority of women artists, through all the centuries, has represented only the most subordinate department of art, such as flower-painting, etching, embroidery, and the illuminating of manuscripts.—*J. Leonard Corning, in The Manhattan for August.*

Kate Field on the Selfishness of Genius

The humblest of us have longings, affections, sorrows, pleasures, and like to be treated as though we filled a place in the world. We want to feel that those upon whom we lavish thought are not unmindful of our welfare. Genius hasn't time for such commonplaces. It is too engrossed in the evolution of a sublime idea to dwell upon the individual head or heart ache. I'm persuaded that this is the reason why very clever men and women marry those who are considered their inferiors. They known by introspection the egotism of brains, and seek an unselfishness which will minister to their comfort. Intellectual companionship may be found in books or society, but that thoughtfulness and care upon which the happiness of daily life depends, can only proceed from human beings possessed of hearts. As there are exceptions to all rules, so are there great hearts allied to great heads. Such creations are the glory of the universe, and to be honored without stint.

The Red Adrianople for Little Girls.

A small blouse for a little girl is of red Adrianople. It is shirred around the neck and waist, and below the shirring on the waist is a deep flounce of handsome white lace or embroidory. The sleeves are short, with long loops of narrow red ribbon falling from the top of the shoulders. In the back are loops of rather wide red ribbon.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

New Paris Dresses.

Countess Potocka's dress at a recent ball given in Paris perfectly suited her dark style of beauty and was a triumph of millinery, almost every shade of gold being employed. The skirt of dead gold faille was enveloped in a network of gold colored tulle embroidered with amber silk and embossed with very thin strips of Cordova leather. The bodice and train were of gold colored stamped velvet, and an enormous wreath of tea roses, starting from the left shoulder, descended very low down on the right side of the skirt. The Countess wore two tea roses in her hair. The rival beauty on this occasion was the Comtesse de Beaufort, *nee* Princesse Mélanie de Ligne, who is tall and very fair. She wore a white watered silk dress, the skirt being entirely veiled with white tulle, looped in all directions with bunches of white hyacinths. Similar bunches hemmed the edge of the round skirt, as well as the bodice, which was draped with tulle. Braces sprang from the tablier and were tied on the shoulders in a new and indescribable fashion called "a la Psyché."

A pretty, modest-looking dress for one of those gray days so frequent in the summer is of gray nun's veiling, so far as the skirt and pouf are concerned, while the bodice is of thin taffeta black silk, with tiny white stripes, opening on a gray waistcoat. A gray blonde fichu passes under the basques of the bodice in front and is knotted behind, thus forming on the sides tiny lace paniers. The high crowned gray straw hat is trimmed with black and white birds.

Here is a sweet ball dress. The short skirt is made entirely of fluffy plaits of white tulle, enclosed in front by an ample tulle veil, embroidered with white and silver thistles. An ivory poult-de-soie second skirt, very short indeed, forms tiny paniers, and is bordered by a wreath of small roses with velvet foilage of a brown tint. The bodice is of ivory poult-de-soie, with drapery of tulle embroidered with miniature silver thistles. Is not that a poetic gown?—*London Truth.*

A School of Sportive Whales.

A school of about twenty whales, according to a Block Island letter, has been sporting about that island for some days past. Sometimes the great creatures come into the bay by the breakwater, but keep most of the time a mile or two to the east. They attract no little attention. Indeed, with the exception of a few weeks in 1882, such a sight has not been witnessed here for years. Swordfish and mackerel are unusually plenty in the vicinity, also; and, as a consequence, scores of amateur fishermen are engaged in their pursuit. Bluefish, as usual, are fickle, now favoring some boats with all the trolling heart can wish, and, again, wholly disdaining the most tempting bait. Some of the most noted bass fishermen in the country have arrived during the past two or three days. As yet Mr. Robert Barker, of New York, has taken the only genuine prize, a bass weighing about thirty pounds.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

A Remarkable Book.

A remarkable book was sold for £980 in London lately. It is a MS. of 257 folio leaves of vellum, written in the fifteenth century, and is a chronicle of the early history of Normandy. Nothing can exceed the minute delicacy of the miniatures with which it has been embellished, from the first of them, which represents the arrival of Duke Rollo at Rouen, to the last, which represents the siege of Chalus, where Richard Cœur de Leon received his death wound from an arrow-shot by Bertrand de Gourdon. The series includes the death of Edward the Confessor and the coronation of Harold, the landing of William the Conquerer, the battle of Hastings, the carrying of Harold's body to Waltham Abbey, the funeral of William and the coronation of Rufus by Archbishop Lanfranc—all executed in the highest style of Burgundian art, and with the minutest attention to every detail of architecture, costume and armor.

Bland—"How did your son pass his college examinations? I suppose he passed without conditions?" Blunt—"Yes; that is to say, they said they would take him under no conditions."

There is one blind person in every 1,150 in the United Kingdom.

THE FAR NORTHWEST.

Interesting Description of the Great Rivers and Their Tributaries.

A GOOD GRAZING COUNTRY.

(From the Edmonton Bulletin.)

The country immediately to the north and northwest of Edmonton is almost unknown save along the few trails extending from here towards the mountains. Those large rivers taking their rise in the foot hills and first range of mountains are the most southerly branches of the great Mackenzie River. Leaving Edmonton for Jasper House, the first river of this system passed is the Pembina—a stream about eight chains wide—carrying a large volume of water in the spring and rainy season, but not subject to rushes of high water from the mountains, as it does not head far enough into the mountains to feel the effects of the melting snows and glaciers. The banks are high and timbered with a fair growth of poplar, balm of Gilead and in some places of spruce. The river winds its tortuous course in a general north-eastern direction. Coal in quantities is to be found on its banks, and some seams are known that have been burning for years. The watershed which divides the water flowing to the north from those which flow to the Saskatchewan is in some places very narrow, the Indians say only a day's travel; in other words, about 15 or 20 miles. Large quantities of timber are to be found in the valleys at the head of this stream.

The McLeod River is the next stream of importance beyond the Pembina. It also flows between high lands clothed with poplar and some spruce, and is very winding in its course. It heads well in the first range and is subject to sudden and great floods during the hot weather or the summer, but dwindles to a small body of water in the fall, with a wide stretch of gravelly beach on each side. In high water this stream will have a width of six chains. Its current is very rapid, rendering it totally unfit for steamboat navigation. In the lower forty miles of the river is a succession of falls and basins. The falls are about a mile apart, over archy rapids from two to three feet in height. In the autumn the basins are very deep, with no perceptible current, while on the rapids there is hardly water enough to float a canoe. In the summer, with a high stage of water, the rapids are hid and the steady fall of two or three feet to the mile gives a current of tremendous velocity. Gold in quantities sufficient to pay for the working if access could be had with provisions, is to be found and will, in time be worked, no doubt. The country along this river has at one time been very heavily timbered, but fires have done their work here as well as further south, and any timber which still exists will be found to be surrounded by a network of muskegs and creeks. Coal is also to be found, but is not likely to be of any economic value for some generations. Sandstone is the only rock seen in place, while the drift is of the kind usually found in the bars of some of our western rivers.

The Athabasca—called by the Indians "the big river"—takes its head far in the mountains, its western and southern branches rising close to the Fraser and Columbia rivers respectively, and flows east to the junction of the McLeod. The Jasper pass, through which the Government route of the C. P. R. was located, is the head of the river. The Indians of the Jasper country are descendants of the Iroquois of Quebec, and still speak that language as well as the Cree, which they have learnt from their neighbors. Leather from the east side of the mountains, years ago, was taken by boat to Jasper, thence transferred by horses to the boat encampment on the Columbia river, and taken thence to the coast for sale to the Indians of British Columbia. The banks of the Athabasca are high and are covered with brute and second-growth poplar, spruce and pitch pine the result of the ravages of fire wilfully and carelessly set out years ago, when no value was set on the primeval forest. Coal is to be seen, but not in as great quantities as on the Pembina and Saskatchewan. Gold can also also be found from the head of the river to the Landing, but whether in paying quantities or not remains to be demonstrated.

The river is about twelve chains wide at the mouth of the McLeod, with a strong current, and could undoubtedly be navigated by steamer as far as the Ghost Rapids, some distance above that point. The awful current lasts to Old Fort Assiniboine, when the river takes a bend to the north and becomes wider, with more sand bars. Nothing now remains to mark the site of Fort Assiniboine save the heaps cause by the fallen chimneys and the half-filled cellars. It was situated on a prairie of about two hundred acres, on the north side of the river, and about forty feet above it. It was the connecting link between Edmonton and Lesser Slave Lake, and a pack trail extending to the north and a cart trail to the south. The goods were forwarded by water via the Athabasca and Little Slave River and lake, to the H. B. post on the west end of the lake. The Upper Athabaska has very little flat land along it, the high banks in many places rising straight from the river. A number of fine streams come in from the north, some of them rising in close proximity to the Smoky River, notably the Baptiste, Big Hawk, Burnt, Halfbreed and Little Slave Rivers. These are from two to five chains wide, and drain a large extent of country. They are high in the spring, but as they do not rise in the mountains they add little to the volume of water that pours down the Athabasca during June, July and August. After leaving the mouth of Little Slave River the Athabasca bends away to the south with a somewhat swifter current than for the previous eighty miles, till the Landing is reached, thence after its somewhat erratic course it seems to make up its mind and strikes away northward to join its waters with those of the great Mackenzie.

Much good land, though timbered, can be found in the region traversed by these rivers and much that is bad, covered with a small and stunted growth of poplar, spruce and pitch pine. Much of it, by thorough burning, could be made good grazing land. The snow is not extensive, and good water is plentiful. But, altogether, it is not a country that will be sought by settlers until the vast prairies both to the south, on the Saskatchewan, and to the north on the Peace River, have been settled.

OUR FINE CLIMATE.

Notable Researches by Moses Oates—Hamilton's Temperature Contrasted With That of Eastern and Southern Cities.

The Toronto *Globe* prints a summary of a Canadian Institute paper by Mr. J. Gordon Mowat (Moses Oates), which supplies interesting information regarding the weather. The climates described are all those of various parts of the Province of Ontario, which, as the writer remarks, "presents south of the 46th parallel a greater variety of climate than any other non-mountainous district of equal area on this continent." Windsor, though a full degree farther south than Hamilton, has almost the same temperature in the midsummer and midwinter months, with a greater variation in the cold of different winters than either Hamilton or almost any other part of Ontario. The Niagara district and southeast coast of Lake Huron have more temperate winters than any other parts of the Province, the last named surpassing in equability almost every other district in the middle latitudes of this continent. In the very peculiar climate of Pelee Island, the summers are slightly warmer than on the mainland; the autums are as warm as on the Ohio River, and the season without frost is quite as long as Memphis, Tennessee. It is, therefore, not surprising that under these conditions cotton fully matures on the island. The interesting comparisons instituted with the Western States and with Europe show that Ontario has milder winters than the Mississippi Valley, a couple of hundred miles farther south, and a much more equable climate than almost every other part of the continent east of the Rockies and north of Tennessee. Yet it is a fashion of some people to talk of the changeableness of the climate of the Province as phenomenal. Another popular error, particularly of European prevalence, is that the summers of Ontario are short. The tables given shows, however, that this idea is totally unfounded. Toronto differs little at any season of the year from Bucharest in Roumania. July at Hamilton and Windsor is almost as warm as at Oran in Algiers, or at Jerusalem. May in Southwestern Ontario is warmer than July at Edinburgh, and September warmer than July at London or Dublin; almost as warm as July at Paris, Munich, or Berlin. Much of the Province is warmer from June till October than even Vienna. The paper contains much that is new, curious and interesting, and its records, being sustained by the meteorological statements quoted, is calculated to make Ontarians appreciate the general excellence of their climate.

Absinthe as a Cure for Cholera.

As if Frenchmen had not sufficient excuses for drinking absinthe already, a French priest fresh from Cochin China, has supplied them with another. Absinthe, it is now proclaimed, is an infallible remedy for cholera. A small dose of absinthe, taken in a glass of claret, will restore circulation and warmth. With some patients the cure is as rapid as the attack; with others it is only accomplished after twenty-four hours. In a small parish in Cochin China, M. Janin, the priest in question, cured seventy-three cholera patients out of seventy-six attacked by the disease. Six French soldiers in the fortress of Soctrang were cured by the some means, while only one died, and he was dying before M. Janin came. Should one dose of absinthe prove insufficient, M. Janin recommends the patient to continue taking it; he says of himself that when attacked by cholera he drank one-third litre of absinthe in about ten minutes, after which he slept and awoke cured. It is a curious fact that after taking five a six does of claret mixed with absinthe, the patients are rarely intoxicated. If, however, they fall asleep in a state of intoxication they are saved. In case of an insufficient quantity being taken death is sure to ensue. In the long run, however, it is safe to say that absinthe will kill many more Frenchmen than cholera.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

At a Charity Ball in Alexandria.

One evening the grand charity ball in aid of the poor of Alexandria took place, and was a most brilliant success. Everybody of importance in Cairo, whether native or European, was present, including the Khedive, who wore only one decoration, that of Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, and who appeared to take great interest in all the proceedings. The ball was opened by a court quadrille, in which Prince Osmond, representing the Khedive, danced with Lady Dufferin, Lord Dufferin's partner being Mme. Martino, wife of the agent and Consul-General for Italy. A Scotch reel, organized and led by Lady Alison, was one of the most picturesque and interesting features of the proceedings. All who took part in it, both ladies and gentlemen, were dressed in complete Highland costume, the music being performed by the pipers of the Black Watch, and the necessary space for the dance being kept by four stalwart sergeants of the same regiment. The Khedive watched the reel with the greatest interest, and personally congratulated Lady Alison upon the successful manner in which it had been performed.—*Lady Brassey in Good Words.*

Musical and Dramatic.

Mrs. Langtry has arrived in England and will at once begin a season in the North.

The excitement in London over Miss Ellen Terry's illness is rather on the increase than on the wane. The vaccine virus took altogether too hard, and the actress' illness has been severe. The street in front of her residence is now covered knee deep with straw.

Christine Nilsson, who has got socially higher than any other prima donna of her time, is to spend a week as the fellow guest of the King of Sweden at Taymouth Castle, the seat of Lady Breadalbane.

The English is a queer language. In England a "pony" is a five pound note; in this country, a glass of beer; in the dictionary, a small horse.

THE EXPORT OF JERSEYS.

Testimonial to the Pioneer of the Trade.

(Jersey Weekly Express, June 21st.)

Upwards of 100 gentlemen interested in agricultural pursuits sat down on Wednesday evening to a banquet at the Pomme d'Or Hotel, set out in excellent style by Mons. Mouraud, on the occasion of a presentation to Mr. E. P. Fowler, a gentleman who for many years has been a large exporter of Jersey cattle, and who, in fact, commenced the trade which has been productive of so much benefit to the agriculturists of the island. Some idea of the value of this trade, which owes to a large extent its value to Mr. Fowler, may be gleaned from the fact of £1,000 having been at length given for a Jersey cow. The services Mr. Fowler has thus been the means of rendering to the island led to the proposal to make him a testimonial of the appreciation by the Jersey farmers of the value of the trade he had been the means of introducing, and the beneficial results that had accrued to them thereby. This proposal was well responded to, the result being that over 800 persons subscribed to the testimonial, which consisted of a massive silver salver, a gold chronometer watch (supplied by Mr. J. P. Genge, silversmith), and a purse containing 250 sovereigns. They were accompanied by an address, beautifully executed by Mr. W. J. Ogier, containing the whole of the names of the subscribers to the testimonial.

After the dinner had been disposed of and the health of the Queen given and drunk with the usual honors,

The Chairman, Mr. H. P. D'Auvergne, proposed the toast of the evening, the health of Mr. Edward Parsons Fowler, who, he said, commenced the trade of exporting Jersey cattle at the age of 18, in opposition to his own father. He was the first exporter of Jersey cattle to America, commencing in 1842, and later on supplied great part of the nobility and gentry of England with the island breed of cattle. Mr. Fowler also extended his operations to the Cape of Good Hope, Natal and India, and he (the Chairman) hoped and believed that a great impetus would be given to the importation to our Indian empire. From a beardless boy as he was when he commenced his career of exporter of Jersey cattle, Mr. Fowler had ripened into a green old age. He had exported annually from 700 to 800 cattle from the island during several years. Taking these at an average value of £20, they had an annual value of £14,000 accruing to the island through Mr. Fowler's labors. He had now reached his 66th birthday, and it had been resolved to present him with a memorial of the value the Jersey farmers attached to the benefit he had been the means of securing to the island by his making so widely known the value of the island breed of cattle. This had resulted in the present which he had now the pleasure of handing over to Mr. Fowler, the salver, the watch, and the 250 sovereigns—the latter contained in the old Jersey traditional "stocking foot." He had great pleasure in making the presentation of these to Mr. Fowler, who for nearly half a century had been laboring in a manner that had so vastly benefited the island, and he trusted that he might be spared yet many years to carry on the same remunerative trade, with benefit to himself and the whole island of Jersey (loud applause).

Mr. Fowler, who was considerably affected by the proud position in which he was placed, was on rising received with loud cheers. He expressed his thanks for the great kindness he had received amongst the farmers of Jersey. He had done nothing more than his duty, to the best of his skill and energy. He had received at their hands what he believed no Englishman had ever received before or anything like it. In carrying on this export trade he had crossed the Atlantic forty times, and had been the means of bringing the Jersey cattle largely before the notice of American breeders. After Jersey cattle were known and appreciated in America, Jerseymen found out what could be done to increase the value of their island breed. They had got prices that were never dreamed of by the most sanguine amongst them 40 years ago, and if the quality were kept up the Jersey cattle would still retain their present proud position. Mr. Fowler then made some very pertinent remarks respecting the artificial system of feeding, now so much in vogue, and recommended a return to the more natural system, pointing out the great difficulty that was often experienced with cattle when taking them across the Atlantic and feeding them on the orthodox principle for the development of those qualities for which they were in such demand. He advised them to feed their cattle on plain food and not to resort to feeding which had been found so detrimental to them. (Cheers.) If they kept up the fattening system of feeding they must necessarily destroy their good milking qualities, and he advised them in their own interest to pay special heed to this fact. He concluded by thanking them heartily for the honor they had done him. (Loud applause.)

Mr. C. F. Dorey, one of the Vice-Presidents, proposed the health of the Chairman, who replied in felicitous terms, after which Mr. J. A. Desreaux, the Secretary to the Presentation Committee, proposed the health of Mr. C. F. Dorey and Mr. J. P. Marett, the two Vice-Presidents. These gentlemen replied, and the meeting broke up a little after 11 o'clock.

Mons. Feret, the recently appointed French Consul to the island, was amongst the guests, and occupied a seat on the left of the Chairman.

The Queen and the Six Nations.

The Council of the Six Nations, having adopted a minute of sympathy with the Queen upon the death of the Duke of Albany, the Earl of Derby, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply, "is commanded by the Queen to cause the Six Nations Indians to be informed that Her Majesty is very greatful for the expression of sympathy in her loss."

—Since 1845 Arctic explorations have cost the lives of 180 men.

India pays $600,000 each summer for the purpose of keeping her officials from melting under the fervent heat. When the hot season approaches the Government is moved bag and baggage to the cooler uplands of the country.

—Switzerland contains 1,003 hotels, w 137 beds.