

CARE OF HANDS AND FEET.

Some Simple Precautions and Remedies Which May Be Beneficial to Some.

The hands, next to the face, are the most important parts of the human frame, in regard to general and everyday observation. A well-formed, well-kept hand is a thing of great beauty, a perfectly beautiful hand is rarely to be met with. Many a lovely woman is marred by red, coarse, misshapen fingers, and only too often a naturally pretty hand has been ruined by carelessness and neglect. The most constant care is required to keep the hand in good condition, says American Queen.

Two ounces of rosewater, half an ounce of glycerin, and five drops of carbolic acid make a good lotion to whiten and soften the hands. Another is honey, one ounce, and lemon juice, one ounce, mixed with the same quantity of eau-de-Cologne. Equally efficacious is a gallon of rain water, half an ounce of powdered borax, and a quarter of a pound of oatmeal. Let this stand for three days, then drain off.

For perspiring hands, a powder made of four ounces of powdered starch, four ounces of iris, and eight ounces of the white chalk should be used. A good lotion for the same purpose is a quarter of an ounce of powdered alum and one teaspoonful of spirits of ammonia in a pint of boiling water. The foot is, perhaps, the one portion of the body to which least attention is paid, yet those who really value their personal beauty would accord it as much care as face or figure. Shoes that are too short or too narrow disfigure and destroy the beauty of the feet; indeed, these are the prime originators of both corns and bunions.

Shoes should be the exact size of the foot; they should also be selected according to the degree of exercise to be taken, also the nature of the soil in which they are to be worn. Too large a shoe is strictly to be avoided, as it prevents the wearer stepping firmly, whilst one that is too narrow causes pain and corns.

Among the ills to which the human foot is heir is that of profuse perspiration. Now, although for obvious reasons it is desirable that this disagreeable affection should be checked, it is very dangerous to accomplish this end by means of frequent and stringent baths. The treatment should be gradual, and lies mainly with scrupulous attention to cleanliness.

The feet should be washed daily with water, to which a little vinegar has been added. It is to be urged that clean stockings be worn every day, those of cotton being substituted for woolen hose. It is also an excellent plan to rub the feet briskly with a dry cloth and afterward with a few drops of alcohol.

Few people are aware that it is not till a woman reaches the age of 32 that the foot attains its normal size, and it will also be noticed that girls' feet generally become smaller as they approach their majority.

FASHION'S FRILLS.

Pretty and Effective Trifles That Are at Present in Favor with the Ladies.

The more gossamer the sleeves the more fashionable. The newest tortoise shell comb resembles a twisted Louis bow. Lattice work of chenille forms the trimming for some separate waists in satin. Black tulle, worked in gold and mingled with lace, is one of the favorite fabrics of the year, says the Brooklyn Eagle.

Blue combined with violet is one of the approved color blendings of the season, and the effect is charming. Spanish shaped turbans of the same material as the gown, relieved with a band of sable, are modish. A white satin striped gauze for evening has autumn leaves painted upon it and a thick ruching of flowers borders the skirt.

Flat shoulder capes graduated in size and without a ripple are a feature of the newest long coats and jackets. The capes usually number three. Rich embroidery in pale green silk and ribbon work upon somewhat darker green satin, combined with fine lace, makes most effective trimming. Some of the newest and prettiest gauze gowns show an applique of lisse flowers, leafless blooms forming a border at the hem of the skirt and around the neck of the corsage.

A white satin evening gown displayed by a well-known modiste was embellished with handsome embroidery, which takes the form of lattice work in gold and paste entirely covering the pouched bodice. Bands of the same embroidery trimmed the skirt. Drapery of old lace and touches of black velvet lend a softening effect to the gown.

Buckwheat Cakes.

First of all, let no cook or grocer persuade one that self-raising buckwheat is just as good as the plain, old-fashioned article, for it is not; never use it. Mix the cakes at night, keep them in a warm place, well covered. Dissolve one-fourth yeast cake in one-fourth cupful of warm water; add this to three-fourths of a cupful of warm water and one-fourth of a cupful of milk; add one-fourth of a cupful of white flour and three-fourths of a cupful of buckwheat, one-half teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful dark molasses; in the morning add one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a very little warm water and strained. Drop by spoonfuls on a very hot, ungreased soapstone griddle; when they bubble, turn and cook on the other side. Greasing a soapstone plumb is not necessary. Serve with maple sirup and butter.—Boston Budget.

MEAN TRICK ON A MINISTER.

Caused Him to Hear His Sermon at a Congregation That Could Hear Well Enough.

One of the ministers of the city—who, for obvious reasons, doesn't care to have his name mentioned in the matter—tells a story of a trick that one of his chums played on him during the early days of his ecclesiastical career, says the Baltimore Sun.

The chum was on sociable terms with the officers of the church he attended, and secured the appointment of his friend as supply on one of the Sundays during the summer vacation. "Now, Jim," the chum said, after the young minister had thanked him, "there is one thing I would like to have you remember when you preach at our church. Nearly all of our people are away, but, strange to say, the majority of those that are still in town are very deaf. They haven't been able to hear the supplies we have had so far, so please do use every bit of voice you have to say."

Accordingly, the minister, remembering his chum's instructions, let loose the full strength of his voice when he conducted the services at the church in question on the following Sunday. And the minister, while not of especially robust build, has been endowed by nature with good vocal organs of a particularly powerful variety.

The minister said, in telling the story, that he noticed with both surprise and pleasure that the greater part of the congregation was seated near the front, instead of off in the rear seats, as in most summer congregations. He didn't use all of his strength, he says, in the opening prayers, but waited for the sermon, when he went at it for all he was worth. At any sign of restlessness or uneasiness he redoubled his efforts.

When the service was over one of the officials went to the clergyman—the chum was out of town, by the way—and, after expressing his interest in the sermon, said he had been greatly surprised to find the preacher the possessor of such a powerful voice.

"Your friend," he said, "told us that you were a good preacher, but that your voice was extremely weak, and that it was difficult to hear you unless one sat far up toward the front. So we brought everybody as near the pulpit as possible."

"But I understood," the minister said, "that through some mysterious dispensation of Providence nearly all your people were deaf."

Explanation followed, and it was well for the chum just then that he was spending Sunday out of town.

DISEASES IN THE AGED.

When Properly Cared For, They Can Be Cured of the Most Menacing Maladies.

Some time ago, and even yet all too frequently, the old man or the old woman who had the misfortune to fall seriously ill was believed to be doomed. The disease was allowed to run its course, with little or no opposition from the doctor, for so little hope was there that it was commonly regarded as a useless cruelty to annoy the dying sufferer by pressing him to take the necessary medicine and food, says Youth's Companion.

Now we know that this is wrong. Old persons, very old ones, can and do recover from the gravest diseases, and they have as much right to claim the thoughtful care and intelligent treatment of the doctor and the nurse as have their children and grandchildren. But, of course, their treatment must be of a different kind, both because the frail system will not endure the sometimes severe measures that are life-saving for the more robust, and because disease in the old assumes a different character from that which it assumes in the young.

The arteries in the aged are less elastic, all the tissues are stiffer and less plastic, and the reaction of the system is slower and less pronounced. Fever, which accompanies every little indisposition in the child, is inconspicuous in the maladies of old age, and a disease like pneumonia may run its course, even to a final termination, without any appreciable elevation of the body temperature, and indeed without any sign of its presence beyond more rapid breathing and progressive weakness.

Excretion is less free in the old, and the depressing signs of systemic poisoning by waste products are much more evident. This poisoning is manifested, not in the wild delirium and high fever of the young, but in stupor, low muttering delirium and vital depression. The aim, therefore, must be to rouse the flagging heart, and to assist elimination of the toxic matters from the system, at the same time using only the gentlest measures.

The brittle organs of the aged will not stand the blows that are often needed to get any response at all from those of the young. They would break under such rough usage. They must be coaxed and gently pushed, but never driven. And herein lies the difficult task of the physician. He must keep a steady hand on the helm and a watchful eye on the breakers, and must know well just how much strain the weakened timber of the bark will stand if he would guide it between the Scylla of inaction and the Charybdis of excessive zeal.

Delicious dinner bonbons are made by chopping peanuts or almonds very fine, mixing them with the white of an egg, a little sugar and just enough sherry to flavor, and pressing the paste into the cavity made by removing the stones from fresh prunes or dates. The fruit is then rolled in powdered sugar.—N. Y. Herald.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF PARIS.

Far-Famed Notre Dame and the Many Hard Blows It Has Sustained.

Placed in the very heart of the soil of the ancient city, the cathedral of Notre Dame has experienced blows from all the excitements which Paris has ever known. It was pillaged in 1793, at the worst moment of the revolution. There were 28 statues of kings and holy men in the cathedral; all of these were broken, and the altars were upset. It was decided by the Commune that Notre Dame should be turned into a Temple of Reason, and a festival was instituted for every day. But the madmen of the revolution soon grew tired of their fetes a la Reason, and the religion of Reason was abolished, to be replaced by that of the Supreme Being. The Cathedral of Our Lady was restored to the Catholics in 1795 since when, and despite revolutions and commodes, the church has not been troubled much. Indeed, in July, 1830, when Notre Dame became a sort of fortress or barricade against the insurrection, when the tricolor flag floated from both its towers, and the archbishop's palace was sacked, the cathedral itself was not harmed. A year or so later the Church of Saint Germain l'Auxerrois was invaded and almost ruined. The mob then marched on the archbishop's palace and effaced it from the earth; but Notre Dame was again respected. The anger of the people was turned into respect at its grand facade.

The Cathedral of Paris has been associated with nearly every important act during the reigns of all the kings, as well as with innumerable other capital events in the history of France, which have happened since its first erection. How many the kings, the queens, the celebrated personages who have come to worship or to pray in that sanctuary! How many the political or religious festivals, of joys or sorrows, of dynastic changes and of revolutions, which have been brought on, so to speak, within its nave during these nearly 900 years! Births and marriages, the deaths of sovereigns, the coronations of kings and emperors, the blessing of flags, prayers for battles gained and for peace proclaimed—these are a few of the many things witnessed at Notre Dame. Notre Dame gave benediction to Christian heroes, and St. Louis departed for Jerusalem. A few centuries later its nave was shamed when Charles IX. celebrated there the gloomy of Saint Bartholomew. Louis XIV. decorated Notre Dame with his pretentious magnificence, and he tapped it inside and out with standards taken from the enemy in almost every land; but in it was also feted his sad treaty of Rastadt. The revolution broke down its altars, and harlotry scrambled in the ancient sanctuary; but pious hands soon repaired its ruin, and Napoleon I. spread his imperial mantle over the wounds of the Holy House.

TEA-ROOT CARVINGS.

Fantastic Wooden Figures from the Far East Fashioned in Artistic Manner.

The fantastic wooden objects which come from the far east and are known as tea-root carvings have long been the basis of a prosperous industry in the populous city of Foochow. Strictly speaking, the name is a misnomer. Some of the carvings are made from old tea roots and tea trunks, but the vast majority, nine-tenths at least, are made from the roots and trunks of hardwood trees, says the New York Post.

The carvings are almost invariably made in two parts, a pedestal and one or more human figures fitted to the latter by pegs and holes. The former is made from a root and the latter, from a trunk. The roots are selected with considerable care. They must be comparatively free from dry rot, decay, and wormholes, and must possess a rude symmetry. They are cleaned, scrubbed, and scraped and sawed to about the desired size. Then the artist with chisel, gouge, knife and pliers removes rootlets and roots until the figure is completed.

The simplest design is a three-legged pedestal, of which the base is a rough cylinder of wens and knobs. Any number of legs may be used. A curious specimen seen by the writer in the Grand hotel, Yokohama, has fifty legs, while the body has been so treated as to suggest a horny centipede. A second type of pedestal is the mushroom. A third type is an animal form, such as the buffalo, tiger, unicorn, elephant or dragon.

A collector in this city has one which is a clever suggestion of a hippopotamus yawning. It is about 14 inches long, six thick, and 12 high. The figures are conventional antiques, and represent saints, warriors, fakirs, beggars and savages. At times the face is a portrait, real or conventional, of a famous personage. Carvings of this sort are rare. Nearly always the chisel is guided by humor or satire. If it be a saint who is depicted, the look of piety or suffering is replaced by a leer or drunken grimace. If it be a warrior, every limb and muscle is molded so as to suggest decrepitude or a desire to run away.

Quang-ti, the invincible soldier prince, is frequently portrayed standing on one leg with the other extended like a professional rope balancer.

No Appeal. Mosker—My wife and I always settle our differences by arbitration. Bradley—Who is the arbitrator? Mosker—My wife, of course.—Smart Set.

A LOVER OF GOSSIP.

Man With Loose Mouth Tells His Little Tale, But He Didn't Enjoy Results Very Much.

A big man who got aboard out in Mount Pleasant was reading his paper in the rear seat of the open car the other morning when an acquaintance with a loose, garrulous-looking mouth, an indeterminate chin and a continuous performance grin got into the same seat at U street, relates the Washington Star.

"Morning," said the man with the loose mouth to the big man. "Nippy weather."

"Yep," said the big man. "Kind o'." The newcomer squirmed around in his seat, moistened his lips with his tongue, added a crease or so to his foolish grin and began:

"Say, did your ears burn you any last night?" "If they did I didn't notice it," replied the big man, folding up his newspaper. "Why?"

"The chinner wriggled about some more in his seat, wet his lips again, several times and kept on grinning idiotically. "Oh, nothing," he said finally, attempting an off-hand tone. "Heard some people roasting you last night, that's all."

"Did eh?" said the big man, not betraying any excessive amount of interest. "Handed it to me pretty strong, eh?" "That's right," answered the man with the superfluity of guff. "They threw it into you right hot."

"That's kind o' queer," said the big man reflectively. "I didn't know I had any enemies in this man's town or anywhere else, for that matter."

"Oh," said the chinner. "I don't s'pose they were actual enemies, like you say it, you know—only they just passed you out a few."

"Oh-huh," said the big man. "What did they have to say?" "Oh, slathers of things," replied the monthly individual. "Said that you dropped a big wad at the Benning track last meeting and that the ponies put you in debt up to your ears."

"I'm," commented the big man. "Come again."

THE SUPPLY OF CORAL.

Comes Mainly from Towns on the Mediterranean Sea—Interesting Points of the Trade.

The revival of coral in all forms of jewelry, which began about two years ago, has now become more pronounced in view of the fact that Paris has lately confirmed the choice of the material for the purpose of adornment. Cheap imitations of celluloid caused the almost total extinction of coral for 30 years or more, and many of the old-time established firms of jewelers have recently taken large quantities of it from safes and vaults, where they have remained to await the long-delayed return to popularity, says the New York Times.

Coral is now popular because it is scarce, because it is being much worn in Paris and because the number of carved pieces in the United States is limited, and there is none being imported for the simple reason that coral nowadays is not being carved any more. All of the coral imported into the United States comes from Italy, and when the demand for carved pieces ceased in the sixties, the Italian manufacturers ceased to make them. The result is a lost industry—there is not a single establishment in Italy today where carved coral can be obtained.

American workmen can carve coral as well as the Italians, but a single piece such as 35 years ago cost \$200 in Italy would require from two to five weeks' work by American carvers, and the expense would be almost three times as great to the manufacturer, and the cost accordingly as large to the consumer. The only kind of coral being imported now comes in beads, pendants and brooches—just plain, polished pieces, having no decorations or carvings.

There is not a single establishment in America today where coral is cut or polished. It must all come from Italy, and as there is a duty of 50 per cent. to be paid the scarcity of it, especially of valuable pieces, is apparent.

The best coral is found in the Mediterranean sea on the coast of Africa. It is cut and polished in Leghorn, Genoa, and Marsailles. Leghorn, which is the principal coral city in the world, has only about seven or eight manufacturing factories. It comes in colors from black to white, green, red, pink, and a color resembling a blue; it is found at a depth of 600 and 700 feet beneath the surface of the water, and is gathered by means of nets dragged over the bottom and catching the pieces broken off by iron bars entangled in the nets.

The cheapest shade of coral is the dark red and the best the pale delicate pink, similar to that of the inside of a rose leaf. The celluloid imitation is readily distinguished from the genuine by its lack of grain shading. The genuine has a grain or knobby whiteness like the cross-section of a piece of wood, while the celluloid is perfectly plain and has a rather dark under-glass effect. Coral is affected by heat and acid. It is also imitated to some extent by bone, horn and ivory, stained with carbinol.

There are only about six or seven importers of coral in the United States, and aside from the stock held over from previous years, the supply of the best coral is very scarce at the present time; nor is there likely to be very much carved coral either bought or sold. Meanwhile the demand for beads and string coral promises will continue until it either wears itself out or a scarcity of the material calls a halt. One of the strangest and most remarkable features of its revival is the utter absence of celluloid imitations on the market.

CAPTIVE PORPOISES.

They Are Kept Alive During Transportation Wrapped in Wet Blankets.

Appropos of our allusion to the late Frank Buckland's futile efforts to safely convey live porpoises from the coast to London, Mr. A. Lawler, of Brighton, formerly naturalist at the aquarium there, sends us an interesting account of the manner in which he succeeded where the authority to whom we referred failed, says the London Express.

In the latter part of the year 1872 (he says) he conveyed to the Brighton aquarium the first porpoise ever shown alive in captivity. It was five feet long and was captured in the kettle nets at Rye bay.

Carried by cart and railway it was simply placed in wet blankets soaked in sea water. These were kept wet throughout the journey, which lasted altogether some 12 hours.

The porpoise lived for about three months in the largest tank in the aquarium, finally causing its death by colliding with the rockery in the tank.

A second porpoise, measuring nine feet six inches and weighing nine hundredweights, was carried in the same way from Rye, Isle of Wight, to Brighton. The journey was made by boat, rail and cart, and the animal, eating between 30 and 40 mackerel a day, lived for nine months.

As to Sex. Towns—I see there's a western scientist who declares that the insect which says "Katie did" is the male, and the one that says "Katie didn't" is the female. Henpeck—That's all nonsense, because you'll notice the one that says "Katie did" frequently had the last word. I'll bet they're both females.—Philadelphia Press.

SOME SIZABLE TIPS.

New York Girl Manicure Told to "Keep the Change" from a One Hundred-Dollar Note.

With the march of progress the manure is fast becoming an appendage of the modern barber shop. She casts her fortunes with the boot-black. There is a disposition on her part to crowd the bootblack a little. In the select parlors, shaded by dainty curtains and protected by fancy screens, the manicure is a great time killer. Under her caressing touch business men who have been on the jump all the forenoon forget that it is luncheon time. The manicure is so restful, says the New York Herald.

But in the barber shop it is quite different. The man who goes to the barber shop is usually in a hurry. He is the kind of a man who would never hunt up a manicure anywhere—he hasn't time, and when he has time he devotes it to something else. In the barber shop the manicure hunts this man down and wrestles with him for money, and gets it. If he is in too big a hurry she does her work while he is in the chair.

A composite picture of the New York business man in a barber's chair, with a tonsorial artist rubbing his chin with a razor, a pretty manicure rubbing his nails and a boot-black rubbing his boots, all at one and the same time, would be an up-to-date expression of New York business life.

The manicure of the barber shop is also a new feature in the tipping system. There is usually a recognized limit to tipping; it is an open and unlimited game in the case of the manicure. The wildest stories are in circulation as to the extent of these tips. Of course, men who can pay 50 cents to a dollar every day or two for the services of a manicure are supposed to have money, and have other expensive tastes to gratify. Many of these deal with underlings on the "keep the change" plan.

A story related of a gentleman who stepped into the barber shop of a Broadway hotel recently. He gave the barber a five-dollar note and the bootblack a two-dollar note, telling each to "keep the change." It is stated on good authority that they kept it. The gentleman then saw the manicure, with whom he was much pleased. He had given away all his small notes by that time. The girl he had was a homie. The girl returned from the "keep the change" fund, saying that the cashier couldn't change it. The gentleman promptly told her to "keep the change."

When next he entered that hotel a few days later, it threw the entire load into a corner. When he went into the barber shop the men whose chairs were occupied could have slit a throat with any of those whose chairs were empty. But the gentleman said he would wait for the same man. The manicure walked up and down and smiled at him warmly enough to melt a candle, while the one who had received the hundred-dollar note was expectant. But he never noticed her again. Nor has she ever had another chance at him, though the gentleman said that the gentleman had another attendant of the same place dress his hair at his residence, twice a week, for which he gives \$5 and a \$5 tip each trip.

WAR OVER BACHELORS.

They Are Scarce in the Capital City and Hostesses Quarrel Over Them.

The woful absence of the eternal masculine in Washington has an important bearing upon the leniency of social arbiters. The national capital comes dimly near being an Adamless Eden, as far as single men are concerned, says Smart Set.

Owing to the dearth of commercial and industrial possibilities, practically all the ambitious young men migrate as soon as they are old enough to come to a realization of the situation, whereas most of the men who come to the dream city on the Potomac, as members of congress or to assume governmental positions, are married, and not a few of them leave sons at home, and bring daughters—allured by the prospect of a social career—to swell the hopeless surplus of young unmarried women.

How dire a disaster this dearth of eligible bachelors is considered by Washington hostesses was forcibly illustrated a few years since, during the war which was waged between some matrons of high social position, on the one hand, and on the other, a nouveau riche from the west, who was endeavoring to effect a breach in the social fortification.

The newcomer had the temerity to plan a series of dances for the evenings that had been selected for a series of similar functions by her associated rivals. The Washington women had little difficulty in securing promises of allegiance from all the popular bachelors in the city, but the invader recruited her dancing corps of men from New York, thus securing the attendance of not a few of the Washington girls; and, to make her victory the more complete, she finally lured, by the sheer magnificence of her entertainments, a number of the bachelors who had originally sworn fealty to her opponents.

Judged by Modern Standard. "A magnificent work, his latest story, you say?" "Magnificent! Why, it's the finest story that has been published this century."

"Indeed? What's the general idea?" "Oh, half-morocco, gold or uncut edges, cloth edition, finished in four colors, with illuminated pages to every chapter."—Baltimore News.