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### WOMAN'S CROWNING GLORY.

The Proper Way of Cleaning, Brushing and Dressing the Hair.

A rich mass of hair that when uncoiled can easily be set upon by the fortunate possessor is a beauty of itself, yet, strange to say, it has less to do with producing the effect of beauty than almost any other attribute. Complexion, eyes, nose, mouth, all count for more in the general summing up.

It is strange, too, writes Ella Rodman Church in Harper's Bazar, to note how frequently this gift is found where there is an entire absence of all other personal attraction; and among German women of the working class, who are exceptionally plain, great masses of thick braids often cover the entire back of the head. A German prescription for promoting the growth of the hair is to wash it thoroughly once a week with the yolk of an egg well rubbed in among the partings, and afterward to rinse it off with cold soft water. A thorough drying and vigorous brushing complete the operation, which is one that working-women would scarcely take the time to indulge in.

This formula has been improved by the addition of half a tea-cup of ammonia, a table-spoonful of oil of bergamot and melted toilet soap (pure white Castile or palm), a teaspoonful of powdered borax, and a quart of rain-water, to be thoroughly mixed and kept in a covered jar for a monthly washing of the scalp. This is often enough for purposes of cleanliness, and better for the hair, as frequent washing injures the young growth.

The egg should first be beaten to make it blend and rub in better; and before washing it is well to braid long hair in several braids, as this precaution keeps it from tangling. Braids and scalp should be thoroughly dried with a coarse towel, and the process assisted by sitting for an hour or so in the sun or by a fire.

Perfect cleanliness and patient brushing are recommended as the best restoratives for the thinning and breaking of the hair which is sure to follow the excessive use of pomades, many of which are highly injurious, and the piling up of hair on one head which grew on another. Much of the hair of commerce has been taken from the dead, and it heats and irritates the heads to which it is transferred. This, with the use of applications containing chemicals, has a most disastrous tendency, and many of the victims "have a crown where the hair struggles thinly over a painfully blushing skin, and partings that assume in their frightened eyes, as they look in the glass, the proportions of the gates of Gaza, or have a stubble of short wiry coarse growth, inclined to bristle up, and giving an infinity of trouble to keep in decent order."

Some toilette tables fairly bristle with bottles, boxes and jars containing "dressings" innumerable for the unfortunate locks, which thrive best, if one did but know it, without any dressing whatever but that administered by a well-made, moderately stiff brush, varied by an occasional application of the hands. The latter gives a satiny gloss; and a country lady, whose hair always had a particularly neat, shining appearance, was once detected in the act of putting her finger in her mouth for an extra touch to the front locks.

People who never indulge in an actual washing of the head, "for fear of taking cold," do not hesitate to wet the hair frequently with bay-rum and other applications, although this is a surer way of taking cold than a brisk washing of the entire head and an equally brisk drying. The latter, too, is far more cleansing and invigorating, and with proper precautions there is no danger of any ill effects.

Gentle and regular friction is the best of tonics to induce a healthy condition of the scalp and to restore the natural beauty of the hair when it has been lost through injurious treatment. A little ammonia in the water used for cleansing acts as a mild stimulant, also a homeopathic amount of tincture of cantharides. Brisk rubbing of the scalp with a raw onion, and after this a touch of honey, is said to work wonders; but all remedies are useless without regular and persevering brushing—fifty strokes night and morning, beginning at the very roots and going through the entire length of the hair.

Cutting the ends of the hair once a month is often recommended, but it is of little avail unless each hair is taken separately, as scarcely any two are of the same length. This is a task that requires two or three hours in the execution, and it is said to pay if persevered in. Children's hair should not be cut unless it is thin, as the first silken growth is never restored; and with the Breton women, who have magnificent hair, it is always allowed to grow from infancy.

The color of hair has much to do with its beauty, and as a general thing the golden blonde is the most popular. Fortunate is she on whom nature has lavished these shining tresses, which give the possessor such a peculiarly youthful appearance. Many have been the attempts to imitate them with art, but such attempts are sure to terminate disastrously. Occasionally the lovely color is retained even beyond middle age, but ordinarily it is as evanescent as the youth it represents, and the golden-haired girl of sixteen frequently becomes the brown-haired matron of thirty.

Miss Goldlocks has unconsciously lifted her red-haired sisters out of their Cinderella ashes, or those of them whose hair is on the russet rather than the orange tint, "the color of perfectly ripe corn," for the reason that hair of this peculiar shade comes next in beauty to the true *chevelure d'ore*. It is not only beautiful, but distinguished looking. "Enter a room in daylight," says a writer on the toilette, "where there are women without bonnets or hats, and if there be one of them with bright, unmistakable red hair she will stand out from the rest with a never-fading prominence, which, if she be a pretty woman—and red-haired women have often great beauty of feature and very often lovely complexions—is of the greatest advantage to her, actually speaking."

An approach to the desirable tint may be obtained by using a preparation compounded of half a pint of rose water and three ounces of clean powdered gum-arabic, mixed and strained, after which one drop of aniline red should be added to give it a rosy tinge. This is also recommended to make the hair curl easily.

The worst hair—which is usually in streaks or patches of color—can be vastly improved by avoiding every thing like a stiff or conventional arrangement, whatever the fashion may be. Such hair should be loose and fluffy, in large waves and careless twists—not untidy, but picturesque. This causes the light to strike it in such a

way that the inequalities of color are not noticeable.

The ugly fashion of combing the hair from the neck to the very top of the head spoils the effect of the prettiest hair, and is becoming only to a small, perfectly shaped head. The bare apertures at the backs of bonnets afford an excellent opportunity for the study of phrenology, and the many undesirable "bumps" thus exposed to view might never have been suspected but for the unnatural withdrawal of their proper covering.

### STREET-CAR SPOTTERS.

How Street Railway Companies Keep Tab on Their Employes.

In the police court the other day, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer, a young man giving an assumed name was arrested on a charge of violating the sidewalk ordinance. He was fined the costs, as it was learned during the hearing that he is employed by two or three of the street railway companies here as a "spotter." The hatred displayed by street-car conductors and drivers for these monitors in their affairs needs little provocation, and as a rule the operators of the cars get to know their men in time, and are certainly well posted regarding their movements.

The "spotter" who appeared in the police court carried a bunch of the blanks furnished by the street railway companies for his use, and their make-up is ingenious as regards details. The spaces to be filled in the blank report call for the day of the week, month and year, and the exact time of the day at which a car is boarded. The direction in which a car is going and the name of the cross street where the car is met, together with the number of the conductor and register, is also demanded. Then follows the details regarding the number of fares recorded and a space for the "spotter" to tell of any nickels that may be "knocked down." The report goes further, and asks for answers to such questions as these: "Was the conductor polite? Was the conductor careless? Was he watchful as to assisting ladies and children on and off the car? Was he engaged in loud talk with any one on the car? Was the driver careful with his team?"

Simple reference to the term "spotter" is sufficient to bring on a storm of indignation from any or all of the employes of street railroads. "Every time I hear of one of those fellows," said a St. Clair street driver, "I am reminded of what Superintendent Bowers, of this road, who is now dead, said of that badge of dishonesty, the bell punch, when it was first introduced. He refused to brand his conductors with them, and declared that the man who was not smart enough to beat them was not capable of running a car. I could point out 'spotters,' any number of them, who are laughed at by the men of this road. I remember when the work was mostly done by women. One of them would get on the car, open a book, and pretend to be reading it, while she turned over a leaf to correspond with each of the passengers. That was the poorest game of all, but the schemes resorted to now are just as bad. If a man is disposed to be dishonest and is not a fool he need never be caught. No man on earth can get on a crowded car, as they all are at some periods of the day, and keep an account of all the passengers. The conductor, who is bound to go through the crowd and collect fares, has to keep his eyes open, and at that often misses one or two.

### POWER OF CUSTOM.

Differences and Likenesses of Fashions in Different Countries.

That different manners and notions prevail in different parts of the globe is, of course, known to us all, says the New York Mail and Express. In some parts of the world the lips are brought together in token of love and affection, in others the tips of the noses. In some places to uncover the head is a mark of respect, in others to keep it covered. Among some nations black clothes are worn as a sign of mourning, among others white. In some lands the dead are buried horizontally, in others they are buried upright. In Western countries sick people pay their physicians as long as they are sick, but in China and other Oriental countries, physicians are paid by their clients so long as the latter enjoy good health. In Paris, domestic servants are encouraged to marry, as they are observed to be more settled and more attentive to their duty than when bachelors. In London, such marriages are discouraged, as rendering servants more attentive to their own families than to those of their master's.

In Paris certain funds are established for the poor, the yearly produce of which admits but a limited number. In London a parish is taxed in proportion to the number of its poor, and every person who is pleased to be idle is entitled to a maintenance. In Paris the poor are always contented with their pittance. In London they are so insolent that scarce one of them will condescend to eat brown bread. The latter city has accordingly a much larger number of idle and profligate wretches than the former.

In Paris, if the bills of mortality can be relied upon, the births and burials are nearly equal. In London the burials exceed the births by no less than five thousand yearly.

Great is the power of local custom, and if we take any of the principal events of life, such as death and marriage, we find the ceremonies connected with them differing most curiously in different lands; but greater still is the power of fashion, and the human family is rapidly and cheerfully submitting to its tyrannical sway; thus we find Oriental peoples eagerly adopting Western habits. In dress and manners the Chinese, Japanese, Hindoos and Turks are surely getting Europeanized, and to-day the Oriental youth, discarding his national garb, looks upon patent leather boots, tall hats and frock coats as marks of progress and civilization.

### One Hundred Years Ago

Fortunately there were no sewing machines then, except the busy fingers of ladies, who gave less time to personal adornment than now. The earliest invention to facilitate the process of sewing was that of Weisenthal in 1755. In his machine the needle was pointed at both ends and had an eye in the middle, so that it could be passed through the cloth both ways. Alsop's machine came next, in 1770, in which the shuttle was used; then followed the loop machine of Duncan, in 1804. In the United States Granough, in 1822, took out a patent for a "machine to sew a straight seam," but Howe's, in 1846, was the first practical machine. The feature of Howe's machine was the needle with the eye in the point and the interlocking threads by means of a shuttle. But the inventor could not have filled an order for a

dozen of his machines for \$500 apiece. It is doubtful if the sewing-machine has become a labor-saving machine, for, instead of using it to save time, it has increased the amount of sewing done a thousand fold. While the sewing machine was introduced only about forty years ago, the sale of them now is nearly, if not quite, 750,000 a year, and more than thirty companies are engaged in their manufacture. Their cost has been greatly reduced since the expiration of the patents covering them. During the life of these patents a machine costing the manufacturer from \$15 to \$17 sold for from \$30 to \$100, and now sells for from \$40 to \$50.

### A Heap of Game.

The game killed last season on nine estates belonging to Prince Schwarzenberg in Silesia, Saxony, Bohemia and Upper Austria was 54,450 head, including 23,570 hares, 19,687 partridges, 3,182 wild ducks, 335 red deer, 1,358 roe deer, 1,774 pheasants, 200 wild boar, 119 hazel grouse, 103 woodcocks and 95 fallow deer.

### PRETTY SCHOOL GROUNDS.

A Constant Object Lesson to the Eyes of Every Boy and Girl.

For several months in the year a large proportion of the children of this country spend at least half of the hours of daylight, for five days of the week, in or about the school-house. At the most susceptible period of life the influence of these surroundings must in the aggregate be considerable, concludes Garden and Forest. A neat and tidy room, with simple and cheerful decorations, will be a constant object lesson to every eye. A room with decrepit furniture upon an unclean floor, and with walls and ceiling broken and stained, will teach its lesson, too, in taste and morals, but it will be quite a different one. It is due to the health of children that they be supplied with abundant light and air. This means a detached building with ample open space about it, even in the city. Exercise is also essential to the healthy development, as well as to the happiness of children, and play is the natural and spontaneous exercise and refreshment for both their minds and bodies. A playground may, therefore, be considered a necessary adjunct to every school. Children will play wherever they have room, but it will hardly be argued that a bare space of earth, which will be dusty or muddy as the weather changes, offers every advantage that children should be able to derive from their school-grounds. If the school-room can be made to give lessons in cleanliness and order and taste the surroundings of the building should be arranged to enforce the same lessons.

That properly ordered school-grounds can aid in this direction, and, besides this, be made an important educational auxiliary in some branches of natural science, was the thesis of an interesting paper read before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society by Mr. Leverett M. Chase, master of the Dudley School, in Roxbury. Mr. Chase argued that the ideal school-ground should be separated into two distinct portions—one devoted to the purposes of an outdoor gymnasium, and the other an area of green sward, properly planted with trees, shrubs, vines—in short, a pleasure-garden for the children. They should be taught that the garden is theirs, and a feeling of responsibility for it should be encouraged. That this sense of ownership will engender such a personal interest that the exuberant destructiveness, so often manifested by school-boys, will give place to a sentiment of affection, and a desire to protect their shrubs and flowers, has been proved in many instances. If the plants are all carefully labeled and catalogued; if the children are invited to aid in cultivating them, under proper direction, they will gain much practical information as to the laws of plant-growth, and if a serious attempt at systematic instruction in certain branches of botany is connected with the care of the grounds, many lessons which it would be an irksome task to acquire otherwise will be learned without effort, and even with positive delight. From the knowledge thus gained, and the interest aroused in the school-garden, we may reasonably look for a growing love of nature—an increasing appreciation of the beauty of trees and their value. If this generation of children were reared under such influences ours would be a land of fair gardens in a quarter of a century, and there would be no difficulty in securing proper legislation for the preservation of our forests. Indeed, it is to be feared that a distinctively American forest-policy which shall embrace in its scope the wisest administration of the Nation's forests, and the most intelligent care of the farmer's woodland, will never be adopted until the interest and sympathy of the children are enlisted, so that they will grow up with sound views and generous sentiments as to the importance of trees and forests as an element of the National welfare.

Of course grounds sufficiently spacious for a garden can not now be found connected with every school-building, and in crowded cities large school-gardens will not be practicable. But there is room for a beginning everywhere. A narrow border along the foundation of the school-house may be made beautiful with flowers from the time when snowdrops appear until frost kills the latest aster. There are few school-yards where a place can not be found for some tree or shrub, or where a vine can not be trained so as to show its own beauty and hide some unsightly object. At all events, some house-plants can be used to brighten up the school-room and to illustrate by living examples the elementary facts in botany and horticulture. One disadvantage will be that of the teachers and trustees who must take the lead in this enterprise know so little themselves of the subjects in which it is proposed to interest the children. The beginnings of this reform—for a genuine reform it will be—will be feeble, and much honest effort will be misdirected. Unsuitable trees and shrubs will often be selected and they will be badly planted in improper places. But the very fact that the lack of knowledge on these points is so lamentable is the strongest reason that a beginning should be made. The attempt will excite inquiry and criticism, and knowledge will come from the study and discussion thus aroused. Fortunately are those places already provided with teachers like Mr. Chase, and Mr. Endicott, master of the Gibson School in Dorchester, who, at the meeting above mentioned, added some valuable testimony to the soundness of the positions taken in Mr. Chase's paper.

A final suggestion made by Mr. Chase is worth considering in other States as well as in Massachusetts. It was that prizes be offered for the best-kept and most tastefully embellished school-grounds.

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