

Woman and Her Work

I am frequently called upon to answer questions about Campbell's Arsenic Complexion Wafers; what they are like, what they are composed of, how soon they are supposed to have the desired effect of beautifying and clearing the complexion, how many must be taken before good results are apparent, and above all, whether I am really certain that they are harmless, and can be left off at any time without turning the patient into a yellow old woman. Now I am always pleased to answer any questions that I can for my correspondents, and it gives me great pleasure to assure them of my confidence in the preparations I have spoken so highly of, by the information that I am now finishing my fourth box of the wafers, while Fould's Arsenic Soap has become such a necessity to me that I cannot imagine ever doing without it again as long as I have fifty cents to buy a cake. I am taking the wafers as a tonic, and by way of tuning up a set of exhausted nerves. I would take them for the benefit of my complexion were it not that its dazzling brilliancy is such now, that to try and improve it would be like painting the lily, but yet I have no doubt that if I continue taking them, I shall like the princess in the fairy tale "continue to grow more beautiful than ever" and never, never, grow old at all. But to answer my correspondents' queries categorically Campbell's Arsenic Wafers are before all other things beneficial to the human system; they are by no means composed entirely of arsenic in the raw, as so many people seem to imagine but contain no less than nine other ingredients besides the drug which gives them their name. It speaks volumes for their beneficial effect that conservative England has recognized their merits and that their sale across the water is enormous. It is another triumph for the potent little wafers that physicians everywhere are acknowledging their merits and prescribing them for their patients, especially in cases of eczema, and other diseases of the skin, and blood.

As to how soon the wafers are supposed to have the desired effect, that depends entirely on the constitution of the person taking them. Some people feel the benefit of medicine at once, while others are a long time before they notice any change whatever; if the stomach is at all deranged arsenic has very little effect on the system; and again some constitutions are much more susceptible to the influences of the drug than others. Therefore it will be well to see that the digestive organs are in good working order before beginning a course of the wafers and soap. Above all things I would counsel perseverance, no medicine can be expected to have the requisite effect as soon as it is begun; pimples, blackheads, sallow skins and wrinkles are all the growth of time, they did not make their appearance in a day, and therefore they cannot be removed in a day either. "Kit" of the "Toronto Mail and Empire" tells an amusing story of a woman who wrote to her and complained about the wafers; she said she did not believe they were any good, because she had eaten six, and saw no difference at all in her complexion. Another enthusiast in the search after a good complexion called on "Kit" and assured her that the much praised wafers were "no good" as she had eaten thirteen, and her wrinkles were just as deep as ever. "Kit" advised this doubting Thomas of the gentler sex to go away and eat six boxes, according to directions, and then call on her again. She took "Kit's" advice, and had a vastly different story to tell the next time she came.

As I have said before wrinkles are caused by a wasting of the tissues which destroys the fine thin layer of fat deposited just under the skin, and acting as a sort of cushion, just as a fine layer of wadding would for the skin to rest upon. When this is destroyed the skin is a little too large for the surface it has to cover, and it consequently "bags" into wrinkles. Naturally it will take some time for any medicine to rebuild this delicate structure, and the arsenic wafers will do it if they are persevered in; but at the same time it is scarcely fair for the woman of forty to think that one box of wafers will eradicate wrinkles that have been forming for ten years, let her take six boxes, and then examine her face and see how the wrinkles look. It will only cost her five dollars, and goodness knows five dollars is not much to pay for setting back the clock of time ten whole years, and getting a brand new complexion into the bargain!

As to there being any danger in leaving off these preparations after having continued their use for a time, there is absolutely none; it must be remembered that in taking

the wafers one is not assimilating a lump of pure arsenic, if so, there would indeed be danger of white lips, pasty complexions, yellow blotches on the face and all such horrors, but as it is, such a contingency is carefully guarded against by using in conjunction with the arsenic, drugs which are especially intended for enriching, and at the same time purifying the blood.

So much for the internal application of arsenic. The external action which tends to soften and refine the skin itself, reducing enlarged pores and giving it a satiny texture, is supplied by Fould's Arsenical Soap, which should always be used in connection with the wafers. In the advertising columns of "PROGRESS" will be found full particulars as to price, etc., of both wafers, and soap.

It is said that silk is to be more fashionable this summer than ever before, and every woman who has the least pretensions to fashion, must have at least one silk dress. From the rich brocade, to the simple foulard there is a variety of choice, both as to style, and price; we are assured that a good quality of silk can be purchased for a very moderate price, and this being the case, all we have to do, is simply choose our gown, have it made up in some pretty style, and rest assured that we are in the height of the mode.

The first display of spring millinery is always rather startling, the colors are usually new to us, and they seem more vivid than we expected with a tendency to indecision, a sort of jumble of color, which may be very stylish, and French, but which certainly is not in the best taste. Later in the season this brilliant advance guard of millinery disappears, and the colors and shapes that are really going to be worn by the best dressed women, take their places. As far as one can judge at this early date red, is the color which is likely to have the most prominent place in spring millinery, red straw, red tulle, and red flowers are all seen in one hat, while poppies and geraniums seem to be the favorite flowers. One pretty hat is trimmed with poppies in soft shades of green, with black centres, the hat itself is black, and green ribbon and black kilted chignon finish the trimming.

Tulle with narrow satin straw sewn in several rows on the edge is much used for bows, and sequined net is also in high favor. By way of a change from the fashions of the past few years, foliage will be a very important part of all the flowers worn, even lilies of the valley and Scotch thistles will be nestled in their own foliage. Yellow flowers will be more fashionable than they have been for years, and cowslips arranged to stand up at the back of the hat in a sort of comb will be a novel feature of some of the new hats. The fashion of wearing hats well tilted over the face promises to continue through the summer, and the sailor hat with plain straight brim and medium low crown is to hold its own, as it has done for some years.

A great deal of moire silk is shown, and the variety of the naterings is something wonderful, one never imagined that so many different patterns could be put into a design that seems so simple; the frost effects in natering, are especially lovely. Of course there are all sorts of floral patterns, with both lace, and bow knot designs scattered through and the large flowers, which show faintly through the tinted grounds, are lovely, in light silks.

Some of the new silks show threads of Tinsel woven through them, but the very newest of all are the moire brocades which come in a variety of patterns, a favorite one being poppies in wonderfully delicate tints. White moire with the watering in deep points, is charming for evening dresses; cloudy effects over leaves and flowers, being also a favorite fancy. Foulards promise to lead the procession of silks during the coming summer, and their variety is endless; checks of every size and style from the pin head to the large broken plaid are shown amongst the new importations. A new silk which looks to be a sort of cross between a surah and a merveilleux, is promised a wide popularity, and another novelty is a moire taffata, which shows a fine, cross-line stripe and is very effective in both light and dark colors. A curious design which is a revival of an old fashion, shows small black polka on grounds of bright colors in both watered and changeable silk. Bengaline again appears amongst the fashionable silks, and popinette, which is a material of silk and wool woven with a cord like brisk poplin, except that the cords are very fine, and the fabric itself much lighter and thinner than the real poplin, is another novelty, and is shown in both light and dark colors.

Probably the most practical and serviceable of all the silk gowns for summer, is the foulard with a dark ground; such a gown is never too dressy and is always suitable for either afternoon or evening wear according to the way it is made up. Dark blue, with a design in white, is always cool and fresh looking, and possesses

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the advantage of never being out of fashion Next in favor come the violet and plum shades, which though no prettier are newer than the blues, and make lovely dresses when combined with white, in chiffon and ribbon. Scroll patterns in white on the dark grounds are very much in favor and some of these new foulards have either a lacework stripe, or a cashmere design. One of the advance models in foulard dresses is in blue and white and made with the new skirt, which has the front and side breadths tucked down in lengthwise tucks down from the waist to the hips, the back breadths being gored and the fullness gathered into the belt. This skirt is quite loose from the foundation at the bottom, and is finished with a deep hem. The bodice is fitted to the lining by being shirred on fine cord just an inch and a half apart, and going around the figure. A fancifully cut yoke of Irish point lace over white silk extends into epaulettes over the sleeves, which are shirred into puffs to match the bodice, from the wrist to the moderately large puff at the shoulder. The collar and belt are of white taffata ribbon. The accordion plaited skirt once so popular is shown again this season, and a very new and pretty model is in pale blue liberty silk made with a full bodice, and a wide collar of cream lace insertion, and cream satin ribbon in alternate rows, and finished at the edge with a lace frill.

ASTRA.

AN INSURANCE MAN'S STORY.

J. J. Hanratty, Inspector for the Standard Life Assurance Co. at Peterborough, Cured of Muscular Rheumatism by the Great South American Rheumatic Cure—It Turns the Midnight of Suffering Into Mid-day Brightness of Good Health—These Are His Words.

I was a great sufferer from muscular rheumatism in my arm; so much so that for days at a time I could not sleep. I walked the floor in pain the greater part of the night. I procured a bottle of South American Rheumatic Cure and found great relief after a few doses. It's a sure cure, and I heartily recommend it.

FIERCE ROBBER CRABS.

One of Them Makes It Hot for a Man Who Reached Into Its Burrow.

A man in the Ellice group of islands in the South Pacific Ocean found a heap of teased out cocoon fibre and cocoon shells at the foot of a large persimmon tree. He recognized the work of a palm crab or cocoon eater and looked about him for the burrow. He found it and carefully felt in it to ascertain which way it turned. He had his arm in to the shoulder when something seized his wrist. He shouted with pain and tried to pull his hand out, but could not.

A white man was fishing on a near-by reef, and, hearing the shouts, came to the rescue. He tore the earth and matted



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roots away, and quickly saw that the owner of the burrow, a palm crab, had resented the intrusion of a hand and had crushed the bones with its grip. A sheath knife plunged through the pendulous tail caused the crab to loosen its hold. The curious man did not recover the use of his hand.

The palm crab, which is known as the robber crab, is one of the most powerful of the crab family, and is credited with all sorts of feats of strength and some feats of agility. Its tail is short, somewhat like a lobster's, and fat. The fat and the white of the animal render it a delicacy highly relished by the Englishmen, Panmatuans, Society Islanders, and Tonganians.

The robber crabs are great fighters. When one of their kind enters the burrow of another the intrusion results in a nip-an-grip contest, in which legs are crushed and other damage done. The great strength of the nippers is due to their constant use in sheering open the cocoon shells to get the pulp on which the crabs feed. When a crab is confined in a tin box, the box must be carefully examined first and any loose edges soldered down and holes filled up. If the crab gets a place where it can use its nippers as shears and tongs combined, the box is opened up in short order. A man living in the Tonga group who neglected to examine a box carefully stored a crab in it on the porch. Next morning the crab and half the house monkey was gone.

These crabs are very fond of turtle's eggs. They have eyes especially adapted to seeing cocoons in trees and trails of crabs on the ground. They can see in all directions at once. They are so fond of turtle eggs that when two or three of them meet on a nest a fight to the death follows. Louis Backe was walking on an island in the Ellice group with a native companion, when the native burst out laughing. He had seen three of the robber crabs in one bunch with their thirty legs so tangled about one another that they could not release their holds on the approach of the men. All they could do was to roll their eyes about. One of the three had two of its armored legs crushed by the nipper of one of others. The native took a vine which grew near by, lassoed the lot, wound them about with it, and carried them off.

CONVINCED THE SCEPTIC.

The Merits of the Great South American Nervine Withstands All the Assaults of the Credulous and Sceptical—When They are Converted to Its Use in Their Personal Ailment They Become Its Best Friend—For it never Fails Them.

Mr. Dinwoodie of Campbellford, Ont., says:—"I recommend South American Nervine to everybody. I consider it would be true to the best interests of humanity were I not to do so. In one instance I convinced an avowed sceptic to all remedies of its curative powers; he procured a bottle, and it has been of such benefit to him that he continues to purchase and use it, and has proved its great worth as a stomach and nerve tonic. It has done wonders for me and I keep it constantly in my house. An occasional dose acts as a preventive and keeps me well and strong. It is wonderful medicine."

HE WAS LOST AT HOME.

After finding his way through Forests Lost in City Streets.

Men who can find their way through boundless forests and other trackless plains may easily be lost in the streets of a large city, a truth of which the Toledo Blade gives an amusing example.

On the last trip of the City of Mackinac with a cargo of horses for a lumber firm came a backwoodsman. He had a great reputation as a "land-looker." Without a compass, by the bark and moss on the trees, he had been known to traverse a quarter section without diverging twenty

feet from the straight line from stake to stake.

He had heard much of the city, and thought he should like to see some of the wonderful things that he had been told about.

He found work at once, his duties being to deliver lumber to the retail trade about the city. The first day a man was sent with him to show him the way about the town. The next day he was sent out alone and did not return, and in the evening was found on the outskirts of the town with his load of lumber, so completely lost and unhappy that he had decided to stay there all night.

Three times he was sent to deliver lumber, and three times he was found in another part of the city. Finally he asked his employer for transportation home. Said he, "I do not like these places where the sun changes its position every five minutes, and one street is made to go in four or five different directions."

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