

## Chat to . . Boys and Girls.

At this season of visiting and being visited, it may not be amiss for us to chat a few minutes upon what constitutes the welcome and agreeable guest for such we would all wish to be I am sure.

For one thing, she will be punctual at meals, this is a thought worth considering, yet a point upon which young people are very apt to be careless—let nothing but illness prevent you rising in time for breakfast with the family.

Do not begin to curl your hair or change your dress just as dinner is being carried in—this for my girls.

Boys wipe for your feet before entering the house and thus earn for yourselves the title of gentlemen; nothing will please all the women kind in the house from mistress to servant more than your careful acquaintance with the door-mat and scraper.

Come to the table with hair smoothly brushed and hands fit to serve the ladies near you.

Be pleased with small attentions—appreciate kindness—eat, and at least appear to enjoy the food that is provided—“lend a hand” here and there when assistance is needed and help to amuse cheerfully, if by singing, reading, playing games, or in any other way you are competent to do so—these things help largely to make the attractive guest, whom you and I gladly welcome to our homes, and ask most heartily to come again.”

Kitty would like to know what amusement she can propose for a “honor evening.”

A cob-web party is great fun, and the amusement will fully recompense one for the work required in its preparation. The cob-webs are made by unwinding spools of silk, thread or cord in every conceivable part of the house, from attic to cellar almost; winding upon pictures, ornaments, curtain poles and legs of chairs and tables. Each person is duly presented with an empty spool; and the object is to rewind the thread, silk or cord without tangling or breaking it. A prize is presented to the who first unwinds his or web, and a booby prize is given to the one who comes in last. To increase the confusion, the cords should be crossed and recrossed.

“Identification” is a most laughable game, and one which has furnished amusement for my young friends in the country many a time. It has this merit, that it requires very little preparation. Long paper funnels having each two holes for the eyes are placed upon the heads of those who are to be “identified.” When the funnels are adjusted the wearers kneel, and a shawl is pinned to the bottom of each funnel so as to entirely conceal the person of the wearer. Each guesser then takes a lighted candle in his hand and holding it to the eye holes in the paper cones or funnels, try to tell from the appearance of the eyes beneath who are the hidden players. When all have guessed the funnels are removed, and the person making the greatest number of successful guesses is of course the winner of the game.

“What is my thought like?” is a good rainy evening game, and one that requires considerable mental alertness to carry it on successfully. One person plays the part of leader and asks what is my thought like? after fixing some certain subject or object in his mind to think upon; and each person makes a guess as to the subject of his unknown thought. The leader writes down all the answers to his question in the order he received them and when all have answered he tells what he thought about. Then each player is obliged to give a reason why his answer is like the leader's thought.

For instance, he thinks of a song that has just been sung by one of the young ladies present and then asks, “what is my thought like?” One says, “like the book

he holds in his hand.” Another says, “like the carpet” and another replies “like the horse I drive” and so on. When no one is asked “why is my thought (that is Miss—song like the book?) he may answer. “because it is easy to be understood.” Why is the song like the carpet? “Because it is so bright” and why is the song like my horse; the answer may be, “because its movement is quick.” A good deal of ingenuity is required to give a sensible answer and quote any resemblance; but it is a good game for making one think quickly and sharpening up the wits.

Tableaux are a favourite amusement for dull evenings in the country. I remember last summer we had some very pretty impromptu living pictures; and one of the prettiest was called “The wood nymph.” It was a dear little girl, whose white frock we trimmed with a border of ferns, around whose fair hair we bound a wreath of bright rowan berries around whose waist we twined the glossy cranberry vines and in whose hand we placed a lovely autumn branch of crimson and gold maple leaves. But I will tell you more about our tableaux another time.

AUNT BELL

### FRILLS OF FASHION.

Fancy bows and neck fixings fill all the available space in the shops which is not occupied by silk waists, and it would seem from the number displayed as if they were to be purchased in dozens. But they are expensive little trifles, despite their innocent appearance. There are bows attached to collar bands, bows minus the band, as you choose, and bows made of lace in cascade and hourglass form. Kilted chiton bows are edged with narrow lace or ribbon, and others are made of thin silk in pale colors. Colored chiffons, as well as white and black, are used, and it is quite possible to get a collar band and bow that will harmonize with any bodice. Silk bows are hemmed, with a row of embroidered insertion above the hem, and stocks tied around with a sailor knot are made of white silk with various colored polka dots.

If you want to have the latest thing, get a garnet cloth skirt, a black coat, and a red velvet toque in a rich, soft shade, a little lighter than the skirt.

All-over lace gowns in cream and ecru over white satin are worn for dressy occasions, and sleeveless coats of Irish guipure are one of the pretty accessories of evening dress.

The newest ribbons are a delight to the eye, with their pretty soft colors spotted with black satin and chenille dots, and striped with chenille and velvet. There is every kind of plaid ribbon, figured ribbon and ribbon with a fine silk fringe on the edge. Satin ribbons are especially soft in texture with almost a velvet finish, and some of them have a diagonal weave in the silk.

A new liberty material is called Orion satin. It comes in all the light colors, and is exquisitely soft in finish.

Barbaric-looking chains of colored beads are shown among the novelties. Fans and lognettes are supposed to be attached to these, and while they cannot supplant the more elegant jewelled chains of gold they are strong and within reach of the many, which means some measure of success.

Gun metal belts with steel ornamentation are very effective.

Chenille plays a very conspicuous part in both hat and dress trimmings this season. It is threaded into lace and mixed with embroidery in silver and gold threads on velvet and silk, and chenille fringes with satin-covered drops at the end of each strand are revived again. Light and pretty silk gimps of braid and cord twisted into every conceivable design, both beaded and plain, are also a decided feature of dress trimming. Picot-edged cords make very effective patterns, and then there is a new edging, made of strands of silk, which looks very much like feathers.

Fur in both wide and narrow bands will be very much used. Old-fashioned, deep silk fringes are coming to the front once more and there is simply no limit to the use of all kinds of imitations and real laces. Embroideries in a mixture of soft rich colors in white silk are used for yokes, vests and revers, and while the floral silk embroidery used in applique is not new, it shows some new designs with silk and gauze mixtures. Beaded and sequined trimmings are quite as popular as ever, and so are steel novelties with jet and gun metal combined.

Buttons of all kinds seem to be in vogue but the latest novelty is crystal or glass handsomely cut. Mother-of-pearl blended with glass is another variety.

Tulle ruffles spotted with chenille in either black or white are wonderfully pretty and becoming.

Pretty trimmings for edging bows and flounces are made of thin narrow lute-string ribbon gathered in the middle. They are especially effective on chiffon frills.

Boas of all kinds are the fashion, which mean that feather boas are still popular.



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### AMERICAN WOMEN.

Their Shortcomings as Seen in a Paris Drawing Room.

“The longer I live in Paris,” writes Laurence Franklin in the Providence Journal, “the more I am convinced that our women have the largest share of beauty and the smallest amount of training among those one meets in the French capital. They have no conception of the value of that quality which the French call ‘tenu,’ and which embraces the idea of manners, bearing, and speech. Watch the American girl in a salon, on the beach at Dinard, or in the Casino at Ostende. She is invariably the prettiest, and often the best dressed; but here her superiority ends. She does not hold herself well; she has a way of throwing herself about which detracts from her grace and dignity, while, although she may not talk louder than her neighbors, her voice carries farther and draws the attention of the crowd upon her. She is, in a word, as nonchalant and indifferent to her surroundings as she might be in the privacy of her own room. Do not fancy, however, that this indifference means unconsciousness. No. As a race we are like the English, notably self-conscious. This may be remarked in any salon where a mixed company is gathered. A French girl gladly contributes her share toward the evening's entertainment, however modest it may be, knowing that her listeners will accept her

offerings in a sympathetic spirit, for nothing could be more kindly than a French informal gathering. The American girl, in her turn, has not music with her, or ‘is not in voice,’ or ‘is afraid to play before people,’ and most often ends by refusing to do anything for the pleasure of her fellow-guests. The chances are, in fact, that she takes flight into an obscure corner and spends her evening with some chosen man friend. Yet the training received by the two nations would lead one to expect diametrically opposite results. The American girl is allowed to grow up without restraint, mingling with the world at every age, playing tennis, golf, riding, bicycling, developing, in short, like a child of nature. The French girl, on the contrary, is repressed and shaped from her infancy. She must always wear a veil to save her complexion; play in gloves to keep her hands white; and only take part in the games that are not boisterous. At every instant she is told to sit up straight, to take her elbows off the table, to walk with her head erect, to talk quietly and only when spoken to; in a word, her training for the drawing room begins before she leaves the nursery.”—Argonaut.

### How She Broke the Ice.

The beautiful girl came into the room and pulled her chair so close up to her father's big arm-chair that he looked up from his newspaper to see what was the matter.

“Mr. Wilkins likes you father,” she said, as soon as she saw that she had his attention.

“Likes me?” he exclaimed.

“Yes. He thinks a good deal of you.”

“Well, I have been under the impression for some time that he liked someone here,” remarked the old gentleman, “but I've never seen any indication that I was the one.”

“Well, you will the very next time you see Mr. Wilkins,” said the beautiful girl, with conviction.

“What's he going to do?” demanded the old gentleman.

“He's going to ask you if you will consent to be his father-in-law,” explained the beautiful girl.

### Cause of Headache.

Too little blood in the brain is a frequent cause of headache, and may be recognized by the ache being on top of the head, by constant dizziness and by noises in the

ears. The best cure is a slight stimulant, such as strong tea or coffee or hot soup—anything which will increase the circulation. People who suffer with these headaches should always sleep with their heads low.

### BROKEN DOWN MAN.

Stomach Rebellious—Digestion Gone Wrong Nerves Shattered—But South American Nerve Made a New Man Out of a Broken Down Man.

When the system is all run down nature needs help to bring it back to a good healthy normal condition. Whether in springtime, summertime, autumn or winter, South American Nerve is a power in restoring wasted nerve force; in toning up the digestive organs; dispelling the impurities from the blood which are accountable for so much disease and suffering. H. H. Darrock, of Mount Forest, Ont., says he was all run down, weak, languid, had no appetite, nerves shattered; he took South American Nerve, and to use his own words: “I am O. K. again; my appetite is big and hearty. I think it the best medicine in the world to make a new man out of a broken down one.”

### Teeth Made of Paper.

The paper teeth made in Germany—that is artificial teeth for human use, manufactured from paper pulp instead of porcelain and other materials that are usually selected for making our imitation masticators—are said to be very satisfactory. It is distinctly durable, and not being brittle does not chip off. The moisture of the mouth has no effect upon it, it retains its color perfectly, and is lighter in weight than porcelain and cheaper, of course, to make.

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