ABSOLUTELY PURE

OLD CREOLE CUSTOMS. Orleans Society Sti 1 Honors the Traditions of the Old Regime.

The social customs of New Orleans differ widely from those of any other city of the union, derived as they largely are from the usages and precedents of the French and Spanish regime, many of which hold good to-day. The old French social law, which divided people into three classes-the aristocrat, the bourgeois, and the canaillehas to a great extent become a dead

The middle class is to-day an unimportant factor in society here. One misses also that subdivision into cliques and sets which exists elsewhere. In a social sense New Orleans is virtually a dual city, the dividing line being Canal street; its principal thoroughfare. Above this dwell the Americans, who now predominate in the population. Below it live the creoles, the descendants of haughty cavaliers and beau-ties who formed the courts of the French and Spanish governors of the provinces, and who still hold sacred the stately manners, the stringent customs, and the prejudices of their ancestors. They, however, have for the greater part suffered reverses of forune. This prevents their active participation in society or the lavish mode of entertainment to which they were accustomed.

It has not deprived them, however, of a certain influence over the social tone of the city, and in no respect is this more readily manifest than in the universal observance of the chaperon system. This system is closely adhered to as well in American as in creole circles, and the penalty of its dis-regard is scandal and gossip, and per-haps, if the offense be sufficiently serious, social ostracism.

Young ladies do not attend the theatre with a gentleman without a chaperon, especially at night, unless they be nearly related or betrothed. Under no circumstances is it possible for a young girl to lunch or dine in a public restaurant unless a chaperon be present, and few New Orleans girls would enter such a place except to attend a lurch or finner party to which a number of guests were bidden and where one or more chaperons were present.

As, regards horselinck exercise, in which New Orleges girls indulge but rarely, the rule requiring a chaperon is much less rigidly enforced, but upon driving without the matronly protection there is virtually an absolute pro-

Social calls are for the most part confined to Sunday evening, when gentlemen present themselves as early as 7 o'clock, and are expected to withdraw not later than 11 o'clock, good breedto yield to his successor. Formal calls are paid only on Sunday or on the evening of the hostess' special reception days, and do not here much exceed half an hour.

In creole circles the mother of the joung lady receiving the caller is invariably present, but among Americans the custom is observed only according to the degree of intimacy between the parties. Excursions, picnic, etc., form no part of the social en-tertainments of New Orleans, though occasionally parties are formed to visit the neighboring plantations when the cane is being converted into sugar. In such cases the host makes a point of providing at least one, and often several, chaperons. Invitations to balls, parties, or receptions are always worded to include the chaperon, and subscribers to the club, german, or cotil-lion, of which at least one is given during the season, are furnished with separate cards for the chaperons and partners.

In matters of courtship and marriage the creoles follow the French plan and the maternal supervision ends only with signing of the nuptial registry. Among the American portion of the gopulation the American custom precails, and the moment an acquaintance merges himself into a suitor he is accorded greater freedom of communidation.

How She Got Out.

A precocious North Side miss of 5 summers listened attentively while her father read afond from the morning paper of the Cook county boodlers being caged at Joliet. At the first pause she eagerly exclaimed: "O, papa, I was caged once. When I was visiting auutie in the country last summer I went into some bushes, and after awhile I found I was caught. The bushes were so thick that I couldn't get out. Was that the way with the boodlers?"

"No. dear, they are in prison and are being punished by the law. Well, how did you finally get out?"

"Oh," she replied, with a toss of her curly head, "I had a little hatchet and I hatched myself out."- Chicago Tribi ne.

Thumb Rings.

I receive so many orders for out-of-the way articles of jewelry that it takes a good deal to astonish me. But when a pretty young lady came in the other day and had a ring made to order for her thumb, I must confess I was surprised. She ordered a plain, broad, dull gold band, and I must say that when I saw it on her pretty little left thumb I changed my mind about the young woman's taste, for the ring was very becoming. Are thumb rings going to be fashionable? Who knows. In the days of ancient Greece and Rome they were generally worn, and in eastern countries are still in vogue, I At Augusta, Ga., a tramp in the coaxed to give more if they are treated as wouldn't be a bit surprised to see them police station astonished the officers by become fashionable here.—Jeweler in

In Cawdor Castle.

The housekeeper, a handsome, middle-aged woman, in cashmere gown and pretty cap, received us at the door with such an air of smiling hospitality that we felt at home at once. Cawdor Castle is almost the only one of the really old castles—that is, those that have not been thoroughly made over and modernized-that is still used as a family residence. We were first taken into the dining-room, where the table, luncheon was just over. It was a pleasant, low-ceiled from, completely hung with old needle-work tapestry. The only modern thing in or about it was the carved wooden mantelpiece; which was put in by the present earl, and bears his crest and those of his unless I took particular pains to. There four sisters, with the date of the room, is no sense in the world in anyone hav-

mutton and venison as far back as the et if you live in your own house. It fourteenth century. The enormous fireplace that nearly fills one end is un-altered, and before it, or in it, the family cooking is done to this day. For the help of the cook there is some odd machinery, still in working order and ney itself, by which the heat of the fire turns and regulates the spit. The upper end of the great room is hewn out of solid rock, floor, walls, and ceiling being of the same mass of stone. Long tables extended down the middle throughout the whole length, and half a dozen maids; busy with pans, pots, and scrubbing-brushes; glanced at us curiously as we passed by. Familiarity their old kitchen.

often closed. It was a hard thing to to get at your sealskin they'll go with-realize, with that kindly smiling face out it." beside us, instead of a warder in coatof-mail. In the middle of the dungeon, young person, mischievously. She like the central column of a chapter wanted to exhaust the resources as well house, rose the trunk of a large haw- as the patience of the good houskeeper. thorn-tree. "There is a critious story about this old tree, which is older than "Well," said she, "paper will do just the castie itself," said the lousekeeper, as well. If you'll save the big sheets build upon, when a saint, or an angel can do up all your winter ones in a way (it doesn't matter which), appeared to him, and told him he must build upon whatever spot a ass laiden with gold "But I think they have already gotshould stop three times successively, ten in this jackef." Shortly afterward, an ass weighed

around it."

To establish at once the principle of believing whatever is told you wonder-they?'

they interest of travel. "As harmless as arrowroot. They suffocate fully enhances the interest of travel. | "As harmless as arrowroot. They We had done this at the very outset of don't poison the moths, they suffocate our pilgrimage, and of course believed this bit of mediæval history implicitly. But we may perhaps be forgiven if we out of being obliged to take care of her ventured to wonder whether the ass things for once. New York (traphic. and his gold belonged to the founder or to his dearest enemy. -Julia C. R. Dorr in Atlantic.

Negroes Changing:

The negro is changing in appearance and losing some of the birthmarks reculiar to the African race. The new pers! How sweet, how charmingly ingeneration is showing the effects of a nocent and naive! It almost makes higher culture. Especially is this one melt in tears of compassion, to noticeable in the towns where contact with the whites shows its effect. The flat-nosed, kinky-headed negro is passing away and becoming an unknown race. All the colored children, no matter how dusky in hue, show the change. peculiar woolly appearance hangs in she not clap her tiny hands in utter long braids or curls down their backs. Aquiline noses and smaller mouths I'm so glad to see you. You were not with thinner lips are the rule. For years, and in fact ever since their free- Ah, the sweet, trusting faith of gendom, the negresses have endeavored to the womanhood! How delightful this do away with the short and kinky hair bestowed upon them by their ancestors.

Much of their spare change is invested

all is! What a dear, dear, darling little Rosie Mackenzie innocent Mrs. Wilcox is, to be sure. in various hair tonies and invigorators, and the long attention and care bestowed upon it is shown in their de- Let us take it down. Ah, yes, here it scendants. The South Georgia negro is an evidence of evolution, the survival of the fittest.—Atlanta Constitution.

Do Figures Lie?

Let us see: Two women had 30 chickens each, which they took to market. They agreed to divide equally the proceeds of their sale.

One sold her chickens 2 for a dollar, getting for her 30 chickens \$15. The other sold hers 3 for a dollar, getting for her 30 chickens \$10. This made \$25 realized for the 60

chickens. The merchant called on to divide the

money, said: "You sold your 30 chickens 2 for a dollar, and you sold your 30 chickens 3 pin where it causes a responsive for a dollar. That makes 60 chickens "Ouch!"—just meant, medame, by at the rate of 5 for \$2. Well, 5 into 60 goes 12 times—twice 12 is 24. That makes \$24 your chickens have brought. But as shown above, the woman actually had \$25 in pockets. And yet the merchant's figures were right!

Do figures lie?—Atlanta Constitution.

repeating from memory several chapters from the Bible.

とうきつき、これのとかということできて

IT DINES OFF WOOL AND FUR. An Old Housekeeper's Advice on Battling With Moths.

"Well," said the careless young person resignedly as she looked yesterday at her sealskin, jacket and her ottertrimmed suit, "I suppose the moths will play the mischief with all my win-

ter things before next season."
"What makes you think that?" demanded the good housekeeper.
"They always do," replied the care-less young person in tones that indicated that she felt a certain sad pride in being singled out by fate as a vic-

"That is nonsense-perfect nonsense," said the good housekeeper in most un-sympathetic tones: "If you lived in a properly regulated house you wouldn't know what a moth looks like. I never have them in my house. How do I keep them out? By simply not giving them anything to live in or on! Idon't make nests of woolen rags around on purpose for their accomodation. I don't have anything woolen around in summer except things in daily use. I take up the carpets of the rooms not in the chin. use or sometimes I put down matting not yet fully cleared, showed that all over the house and put away the "How do I keep them out of the car-

pets after they are taken up? "I don't know how I'd get them in ing anything moth-eaten. There are From thence we went to the kitchen, forty ways of preventing it, each easier whose walls, many feet thick, were than the last. To begin with, you can have acedar ehest or a cedar-lined closcosts something in the beginning, but nothing so oppressive as people generally imagine, and there it is for the accomodation of your children's children.'
"I am afraid they'll never arrive to

get the good of my cedar chest," interin daily use, though as old as the chim-riev itself, by which the heat of the "If you have no chest," went on the good housekeeper, ignoring this side issue, "you can put them in an ordin-

Christendom." "I do not like my things smelling of camphor," objected the young person.
"I like my things smelling of camphor better than having no things to breeds contempt and there is small smell of anything," was the satirical doubt that they marveled under their response, "but you don't need to have caps at the interest or curiosity that camphor. If you'll just do up your brought so many questioning eyes into | furs and winter woolens in cotton cloth, wrap them all up in one big sheet, A short winding passage and a flight you'll be perfectly safe—or you would of steps led us into the dungeon. It is be if you had some one with a grain of not a bad place as dungeons go, hav- common sense to do up the bundle for ing more light, air, and space than you. It won't do to roll a sheet around most of them. Still, the sound of the middle and leave it open at both the heavy iron door swinging to, with ends. The sheet must thoroughly ena clang, upon its rusty hinges, must wrap your things, with no loose cor-have been anything but agreeable to ners or cracks. Moths won't go through the poor captives upon whom it has so cotton, and if they have no other way

"I haven't any sheet," objected the

laving her hand upon it. "The founder of wrapping paper that your new spring of the house was looking for a place to things are now coming home in you

"They haven't gone far, if they have; down with treasures persisted in stop- all you need to do is to shake and beat hawthorn-tree. And so, you see, we with powder before you put it away, have our eastle, which was built The moth powders are generally good things '

And the young person saw no way

Ella's Sweet Simplicity.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox has struck a new note lately. She informed a reporter of the Republican, in St. Louis,

After awhile Hubby Wilcox comes Among the females long hair of that in and the dear, innocent cries out (did

> Over there on the shelves is a little red-bound book: "Poems of Passion."

many like it. Listen:

"For just one kiss that your lips have given In the lost and beautiful past to me, I would gladly barter my hopes of heaven And all the bliss of eternity.

"I know, in the way that sins are reckoned, This thought is a sin of the deepest dye. But I know, too, that if an angel beckoned, Standing close to the throne on high, And you, adown by the gates infernal, Should open your loving arms and smile, I would turn my back on things supernal To lie on your breast a little while!"

Have the people grown tired of this

Have the people grown tired of this style, Mrs. Cinderella Wilcox? Dear me, it is too borrid if they have, isn't it? Are we to have the simply sweet. simpering Rosie Mackenzie, now, madam? Well, well, if so, we Americans as a people, pay handsomely to be humbugged, you know. Success, Mrs. Cinderella . . but forgive a brother humbug if he occasionally inserts a min where it causes, a responsive "Ouch!"-just meant, medame, by way of a gentle reminder that a part may really be overdone, you know.— Alex. De Menil, in St. Louis Magazine.

There is such a demand for Maine pruce gum that there fears expressed that the trees are giving out. A correspondent suggests that they may be tives back the bark with their hatchets, and in due time the tree weeps gum.

She Made a Sale

She was a pretty woman, and she bowed to me bewitchingly as she came in, says a writer in Town Topics. She held up one finger archly, and said im-

I said: "My dear madam, I am busy to-day, and I beg you will excuse me. She sat down beside me and made

"But, my dear-" She took my hand gently but firmly "I know-you are a busy man-you

-you hardly find time to look at the "Yes, madame; that's precisely the

She chucked me deliberately under "Do you mean to say that you are

dollar for this beautiful book:" I gasped feebly and glared at my office boy. He was evidently interested.

"You must be a successful book agent; you have the most fetching qualities I have ever seen."

She rose at one, and, sitting down upon the arm of my chair, threw one down looked tenderly into my eyes. "Now, you know, darling, you are going to do just what I say; you are going to buy-"

married man-that I-"

She replied: "I have nothing to do with that; I am here for business." I replied: "That statement is unnecessary; the fact is quite apparent. But

got hold of the wrong man." She seemed a trifle hurt at this, but she did not take her arm from my neck. She remained in this compromising attitude apparently lost in thought.

suddenly, bringing her face dangerously near my own; 'if you'll take a copy of that book I'll promise not to kiss you before I leave the office!"

Archduchess Valerie, the youngest daughter of the Emperor of Austria, is to be betrothed to her cousin, the Archduke Francis, the eldest son of the Archduke Charles, who is the presumptive heir to the throne, as the Crown Prince has no son.

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petnously:
"Now, sir, I want you to stop your writing and look at my book."

Then she blushed charmingly, as if embarrassed at my look of amazement.

herself comfortable at once. "Now, don't let me hear another

word about that; you are going to buy a book, of course."

write all day and are too tired to read

case.

going to refuse me a miserable little

Rash words!

arm around iny neck, and bending

I heard my office boy chuckle, to himself. I protested. I said:
"My dear madam, this is really—embarrassing-do you know-I am a

I am really fond of my wife. You've

I broke into a cold sweat. "I'll tell you what I'll do," she said

I bought the book.

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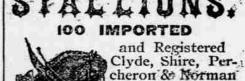
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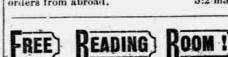
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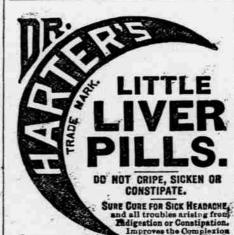
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