

OUTLANDISH DRESS IN ENGLAND.

It is not surprising that a large crowd should have collected, that ladies were shocked and policemen scandalized, by the appearance lately in the Strand near the Vaudeville theater, at midnight, of a young man dressed in a suit of bed-chintz of various colors. A high-crowned hat completed the costume of this fantastic individual, whose eye-brows were painted black, while the lower part of the face was daubed with red, and who carried an umbrella in one hand and a rifle in the other, in addition to a sword and pistol in his waist belt. The young man was arrested, and when charged the following morning at Bow street with "disorderly conduct," his defence was that he had made a bet of five pounds with a friend, seemingly as brainless as himself, that he would walk from the Criterion to the Gaiety theater in any costume which his friend might prescribe without being molested by the police. Mr. Vaughan sternly reprehended the inopportune masquerader, and ordered him to find one surety in £20 for his good behavior for six months.

Sociologically, the offense of this silly youth was a dual one. He had not only caused an obstruction in a public thoroughfare, but he had committed that which, in England, is deemed a very flagitious offense. He had appeared in an unaccustomed garb. On the other hand, he might, with perfect immunity, at high noon as well as at midnight, in Regent street or in the Strand, at an aristocratic garden party or in the presence of royalty itself, appear in a costume somewhat like the following: A wooden cap with an eagle's feather and silver aigrette in the form of a thistle; a boy's jacket ornamented with many buttons; a short petticoat, fantastically chequered in "various colors;" bare legs; plaid worsted hose with a knife and fork at one garter and a spoon at the other; and hanging before him at his waist a goatskin pouch decorated with tassels or tails of black horse-hair. At his side he might have worn a broadsword, and in his belt a dagger and pistol. That is the Highland dress. When it was assumed by George IV, at Edinburgh, in 1820, the "garb of old gaul" excited much merriment, which rose to uproarious hilarity when Sir William Curtis, the banker, who was as fat and as vain as the King himself, appeared in similarly preposterous attire. Nobody laughs at the Highland dress nowadays. It is worn indiscriminately by officers in the Highland regiments, by gillies, by affluent English tradesmen who have hired shootings or fishings in Scotland, and by the children of conceited rich people. It is an uncouth and barbarous garb, but we have grown accustomed to it.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

A NEEDED PROTECTION.—It has just come to light that several years ago the Iowa Legislature passed a bill incorporating the Iowa Ministers' Mutual Protective Association, and providing that what person soever, without regard to age, sex, rank, color or previous condition of servitude, including Indians not taxed, should present any clergyman, of whatever denomination, Catholic or Protestant, be he settled as pastor of a church or employed in any capacity by any religious, educational, publishing or missionary institution or association, or merely lying around loose looking for a church, or bushwhacking through the country as a star evangelist, a so-called pair of embroidered slippers, whereof one slipper should be a number three, C last, embroidered in green and yellow and with a high, slim heel, and the other, its alleged mate, should be a number fourteen, D last, embroidered in red and blue, with no heel whatever, should be deemed guilty of an assault with intent to commit bodily injury, and should be punished by fine or imprisonment, or both, one-half the fine to go to the complainant.—*N. Y. Mail*.

AN ABSURDITY.—To purchase wood by measure. Its heat-producing qualities are in proportion to its weight, if seasoned. When in Paris, our wood was furnished by the pound.

ST. BERNARD DOGS.

We present herewith an engraving of the St. Bernard dog. These famous animals have been introduced into this country, and bred with as much care as other thoroughbred stock, and with such success that their values are not unlike those of thoroughbred cattle.

The dog Don, shown in the engraving, is a fine specimen of a noble race. He is four years old. He possesses the characteristic white marking of the breed, well-defined—the white muzzle and poll streak, the cowl or monk's hood, the neck-band, white breast-piece, with white feet and tip of tail. He has also double dew-claws, and weighs 165 lbs. or over when in good flesh. He won the first prize of the Westminster Kennel Club, at New York, in 1879; the special at Philadelphia, and first and special at Boston, the same year.

A REMARKABLE CASE.—Scarcely less astonishing than Dr. Tanner's recent feat of fasting, remarks the *N. Y. Evening Mail*, is the condition of a young lady, daughter of the Mayor of Grambske, a village near Bremen, who is said to have been fast asleep ever since the second week in January with the exception of a few



ST. BERNARD DOG, "DON," OF THE CRANMOOR KENNEL, NEW JERSEY.

hours of semi-wakefulness at intervals of from six to eight weeks. An interesting account of her extraordinary state is published in the *Hanover Courier*. It appears that she lies, plunged in a profound slumber and entirely unconscious of all that goes on around her, night and day, reclining on her left side, warmly covered up and with a light gauze spread over her head. Nourishment, chiefly in a liquid form, is daily administered to her, which she swallows without awaking for a second. She is a pretty, slender girl, of a pallid complexion, but she does not lose in weight during her trances of from forty to sixty days, and when awake exhibits a cheerful disposition and an eager desire to perform such small household tasks as her strength enables her to fulfill. Her father is a well-to-do man, who has consulted several eminent medical men in the hope of discovering some remedy for his daughter's abnormal condition, which entails serious inconvenience and constant anxiety upon the other members of his family, but all efforts hitherto made to keep the unlucky girl awake have resulted in total failure.

HIGHT OF THE AURORA BOREALIS.—Drs. De La Rue and Muller determine the hight at which the aurora borealis has its greatest brilliancy at about 38 miles; at a hight of 81 miles the light is pale and faint, and at 124 miles above the earth's surface no electric discharge can take place to produce the phenomenon.

THE DIVER'S FUN WITH THE FISHES.

Our young readers must ask their parents to explain to them how men go down to the bottom of the sea in diving-bells or with divers' costume and stay there for hours without coming to the surface. When our young friends understand this they will appreciate the following which we find in an Eastern newspaper: Fishes are as playful as birds, and some species may be tamed as readily as any other pets. Divers in diving-bells have had some curious experiences with them. A prolonged stay in one place gave a diver an opportunity to test this intelligence further, and to observe the trustful familiarity of this variety of marine life. He was continually surrounded at his work by a school of gopers, averaging a ft. in length. An accident having identified one of them, he noticed that it was a daily visitor.

After the first curiosity, the gopers apparently settled into the belief that the novel monster was harmless and clumsy, but useful in assisting them to their food. The species feed on crustacea and marine worms, which shelter under rocks, mosses and sunken objects at the sea bottom.

In raising anything out of the ooze a dozen of

these fish would thrust their heads into the hollow for their food before the diver's hand was removed. They would follow him about, eyeing his motions, dashing in advance or around in sport, and evidently with a liking for their new-found friend. Pleased with such an unexpected familiarity, the man would bring them food and feed them from his hand as one feeds a flock of chickens. The resemblance in their familiarity and some of their ways to poultry was, in fact, very striking. As a little chick will sometimes seize a large crumb and scurry off, followed by the flock, so a fish would sometimes snatch a morsel and fly, followed by the school. If he dropped it or stopped to enjoy his tidbit, his mates would be upon him.

Sometimes two would get the same morsel and there would be a trial of strength, accompanied with much flash and glitter and shining scales. But no matter how called off, their interest and curiosity remained with the diver. They would return, pushing their noses about him curiously in appearance if not intent, and bob into the treasures of worm and shell-fish his labor exposed.

LADIES who do their own work will find that, in addition to a long apron a pair of calico sleeves with a rubber cord in the top is a dispenser of happiness. One can slip them on over cuffs and nice dress sleeves, get tea and even wash the tea dishes without injuring the dress.