

A Dream of Fair Women.

Probably one of the dreams of fair women is to remain fair—seeing the power of beauty in the world, they would be foolish were it not so—and a fact of their knowledge, not a part of their dream, is that the first requisite of beauty is a fine skin.

Than the human skin, physiologists tell us, there is nothing in the world more complex, more perfect, and more beautiful. With the touch of velvet, the most delicate sensitiveness, the loveliest tints, it is yet elastic and strong enough to protect all the wonderful mechanism of muscle and nerve and bone beneath it.

Naturally as soon as the delicacy and importance of the functions of the skin were recognized, one would imagine that it would be an object of special care; but perhaps there has been no period in the history of civilization and semi-civilization when the skin has been neglected as it is at present.

With the ancients, we are told, the bath was always the first and chief refreshment offered the guest, and its value was well appreciated, not only as a comfort, but for its curative power to the dilapidated skin.

Cleanliness, after all, is the sovereign specific for a clear and charming skin, together with sufficient exposure to the action of the sunlight; for the cheek which knows only the light of cellar or dungeon loses all its carmine, and becomes as blanched and etiolated as the plant grown there; and even the people who habitually frequent north rooms acquire a pallor which is lost upon choosing those of a southern exposure.

shed its shining coat of blackness. But when a good lather of soap-suds, with plenty of water and rubbing, has once removed dirt, dry friction will probably keep the body clean and the skin fair for a long and healthy period; and when it is hard to obtain water, or when the chill of it cannot be borne, rubbing with a salted napkin or a crash towel, or with a knitted mitten of coarse juck-thread, will be found to set the blood spinning, and give as rosy a cheek as a daily dip in the ocean will; although, in order to be on the safe side, one will always keep up a respectable acquaintance with the great mother of all things—water.

A sad story of the yellow fever scourge in the South has just come to light. A few evenings ago a well-dressed babe, about one year old, was left on the doorstep of a well-to-do citizen, Mr. Newcomb, of Providence, who found it there upon answering a sharp ring of the door-bell. It had a tiny gold ring on its finger, and a gold necklace, with a gold dollar attached, around its neck.

A letter was received from her the following day, dated at Providence, she having written it before the city, which simply gave instructions for the care of her offspring. Two days after the receipt of the letter a telegram was received by Mr. Newcomb from Boston, stating that Mrs. Hall was in a dying condition at a hotel in that city.

The use of English ivy for the purpose of decorating rooms is becoming more extensive every year, and cannot be too highly recommended. Being very strong, they will live through any treatment; but study their peculiarities, and manifest willingness to gratify them, and they will grow without stint.

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The Tea-gown.

Ladies who, a few years ago, would have considered the idea appalling, calmly array themselves in the glorified dressing-robe known as a "tea-gown," and proceed to display themselves to the eyes of their admirers. The reason, perhaps, is not very far to seek. Certain adventurous dames who determined some years since, on the invasion of man's stronghold, the smoking-room, arrayed themselves for conquest in bewitching robes de chambre.

He visited the entire northwest, and discovered the last invention in plows in the Oliver chilled plow, of Indiana. Mr. Coffin said: "Mr. Oliver was a manufacturer of common plows. He began at South Bend in 1855. He saw that the demand of the farmers was for the plow that would have a mold-board of hard finish, something harder than iron, because iron was almost worthless in many of the western soils.

Few were aware of the physical strength possessed by Mr. Lincoln. In muscular power he was one in a thousand. One morning, while we were sitting on deck, he saw an axe in a socket on the bulwarks, and, taking it up, he held it at an arm's length at the extremity of the helve with his thumb and forefinger, continuing to hold it there for a number of minutes. The most powerful sailors on board tried in vain to imitate him.

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The Patent System.

The Senate Committee on patents, in the course of its investigation preliminary to the report of the new bill for the codification of the patent laws, has discovered many new and important facts connected with the extension of the patent system in the west. Mr. C. C. Coffin, the well-known writer, under the name de plume of "Carleton," was specially charged by gentlemen interested in patents to make a tour of the western country, and to direct his inquiries to various points, such as, what benefit has accrued to an inventor from a patent; what benefit to the public; what royalties have been paid for the use of a patent; how much of time, labor and expense an invention has cost; what it costs to introduce an invention to the public; what grounds of complaint there are against the present law; and what modifications of the law are desired.

By absence, and when I was especially disappointed, not leaving a scar, when Henry's Carbolic Nerve is the agent employed to heal them. This standard article cures the worst sores, eradicates cutaneous eruptions, relieves the pain of burns, restores pimples and blotches from the skin, and has proved to be eminently successful in remedying rheumatism and soreness of the throat and chest. Ask for Henry's Carbolic Nerve, and take no other. Hodge, Davis & Co., Agents.

Philadelphia to Portland Direct. The Pacific Coast Steamship Company will dispatch their new and elegant iron steamer, State of California, from Philadelphia, Pa. to Portland, Ogn. direct on or about February 1st. For freight apply to J. M. O'Connell & Co., 50 South Front street, Portland, Ogn. Goodell, Perkins & Co., 10 Market street, San Francisco, Cal. Willard K. Freeman, 74 First street, New York City, or 109 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A HEARTLESS SURGEON.—The following from the Popular Science Monthly will not be credited by many of the fair sex: Many of the ills and diseases prevalent among women in our day are, no doubt, traceable to the sedentary mode of life so common among them. The progress of modern industrial art has done away with much of the household drudgery to which women were formerly subjected, and the result is in many cases want of sufficient occupation for needed bodily exercise.

Probably about the best way to put a stop to this grave robbery business would be, in every case where a grave is rifled, to fill the vacancy promptly with a medical student.

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The French Exposition. The great lottery which is, most inappropriately, to wind up the French Exposition will soon take place. The number of tickets originally agreed upon, though mounting into the millions, have been all bought up, and it has been deemed requisite to issue a great many more. None of the prizes, which number 140,000, are in actual cash. They begin with a valuable article of art and bijouterie, purchased in the Exposition, and grade down to a month's free food at a restaurant. The winners of certain prizes can, if so disposed, exchange them for a stated amount of money. Thus the first prize is rated at \$25,000, and if the fortunate winner does not wish to keep the article itself, whatever it may be, he can get the coin from the firm or store that sold the prize. The property of such a finale to a grand and successful exhibition is very much questioned even in France. Strict moralists declare the thing a grievous sin and an abomination before the Lord; yet the sale of tickets was enormous.

We give notice this issue of extensive assortment of parlor suits in silk, rep, terry and hair-cloth coverings—made in a workmanlike manner, and the lowest prices consistent with good work. Bedroom suits in walnut, ash, maple, spruce and pine, from \$400 down to \$25 per suit, consisting of bedstead, bureau and mirror, washstand, table, two chairs, rocking chair and towel rack. This house carries some 1,500 cases of chairs in the knock down for the trade, also an immense stock of carpets and oil-cloths. SHEDLER & CHADBOURN, First street, between Yamhill and Morrison streets, Portland, Oregon.

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