OFFERINGS OF SPRING.

Linens and Laces, Muslins and Pongees In Market.

If there is really one woman who has a dollar left after the holidays, now is the time she can make it do the work of five. Every store is nearly giving away unsold articles to make place for the new. And the new is all white, with much lace and fine sewing. Bargain counters hold remnants of excellent goods, and a wise buyer can find broadcloth, silks and many other standard goods which are in the way, and as fashions in this line change so very little it pays to buy them. A few wise virgins save their money for just such opportunities. They make smoking caps out of their father's and brother's old clothes with the addition of a little gold braid and a few stitches of embroidery or make a denim sofa cushion with the recipient's initials embroidered upon it for Christmas presents and then save their cash for after holiday sales. And these sales string along quite to February. But let us speak of the dainty new wash and white dress goods.

The white list is large. The different designs and apparently different materials all woven from cotton leave nothing to be desired. There are batistes in so great a variety that it would be profitless to attempt to give them all in detail, but I can say that there are stripes, checks and embroidered fancies, all white. In addition to the fancy swisses, there are also madras designs, French piques and muslins, both crisp and soft.

The ancient dotted swiss is shown in great variety—that is, in the size of the dots. These vary from pin head to those the size of a nickel. There are also designs of tiny sprays of flowers in natural colors, and these are in wash silk, so that the gown may be laundered indefinitely. Some others have neat floral designs in a white ground, while there are piques with almost the same floral figures. Pique is one of the standard cotton goods, but it is hard and does not feel delicate, while it takes soil even sooner than the thinner materials. And pique is harder to launder than thinner goods.

French linens, which are about one-half linen and the rest cotton, are embroidered by machine. Batistes are always dainty, and this season's output shows the most delicate of designs, reminding one of the "sprigged muslin" of our great-grandmothers' days. Then there is voile in cotton, somehow manipulated so that it looks like the finest wool voile, and other cotton voiles, which are mercerized so that they look like silk. Zephyrs there are in every conceivable color and tint and many mixtures of silk and sea island cotton striped and some in jac-

VERY PRETTY HOME FROCKS.

quard and Persian effects. Some of these have borders woven along, to be developed into directoire gowns for street wear later in the season. Many of the designs cannot be distinguished from real silk in foulard effect.

Any amount of new things are exhibited for early spring, among them being the silk and cotton pongee. This is produced thirty-six inches wide in dots on pretty ground and in plain colors. Another half and half material is shantung anglaise, which is very rich and lustrous and is often in all the new shades, with self stripes. These are satiny in effect.

A decided movement is in having the house dresses as simple as possible. In the illustration will be found one frock of foulard in a rich woody brown with white figures. It is developed in much the style of what we used to call the French waist and is remarkable for its simplicity. The other is an afternoon gown of white swiss demitrain and of a semidirectoire style. There is a bertha cape of the muslin trimmed with rows of valenciennes insertion. A sash of pink ribbon is carried once and a half around the waist and knotted at the hip. These sashes are very pretty.

I am told on the highest authority that the day for the big hat has begun to decline. We may have for a few weeks yet the styles of winter, but with the advent of early spring, now not so very far away, we shall see a great indifference. The same authority told me that he thought the natural reaction would bring us to extremely small hats. As it is, we see or don't see, according to how we are placed, wherever women congregate. What would women do if men wore such monstrosities as have been the fashion this winter? One or two houses are showing immense stiffened hoods, supposedly for evening. These are the exact prototypes of the very ancient "calashes" of olden times. And as they crush the hair down it is a question as to their general adoption. They are made of thin silk, and some are garnished with lace and ribbon.

OLIVE HARPER.

DAMES AND DAUGHTERS.

Mrs. Harriet Paul has been appointed clerk of the committee on corporations and railroads in the Colorado assembly.

Mrs. Frederick W. Upham, a well known society woman of Chicago, has been elected president of the Woman's Athletic club.

Lettie Baldwin, a colored woman of Ashboro, N. C., presented herself for a license for her fourth marriage. She stated that she professed religion seven years before the civil war and at the close of the war had nine children.

Mrs. Mary McGeehan, who is now 106 years old, has lived on oatmeal all her life and works about the farm at Brockagh, Donegal, Ireland, with her children and grandchildren. She is the widow of a tenant farmer, and her faculties are practically unimpaired.

Mme. Guadalupe de Haro, a Mexican and a descendant of the Montezumas, is in New York studying domestic science as practiced in the United States. She will carry it back with her to Mexico and at the bidding of her government introduce it in that country.

"Champion pants patcher of the United States" is the unique title won during the National Corn exposition at Omaha last year by Miss Selma Fredeen of Aurora, Neb., who, in competition with girls and women from twenty states, beat them all for neatness. In addition to the title the championship carries with it $50 in gold. Miss Fredeen is only seventeen years old.

Sporting Notes.

William K. Vanderbilt has won nearly $700,000 on the French turf in the last four years.

H. T. Blackstaffe of England, Olympic sculling champion, in twenty-two years of river work won 215 prizes.

There are now five Georges on the Detroit American league team—Mullin, Suggs, Winter, Cockill and Moriarity.

Major Delmar, 1:59¾, has been retired from the turf by his owner, William Bradley, owner of Ardmaler farm, Raritan, N. J.

Oiseau has been sold for $20. The great race horse for which "Diamond Jim" Brady once paid $30,000 was knocked down for this paltry sum at an auction in Kentucky recently.

Tim Murnane has invented a batters' box that cannot be erased. It is made of hard rubber and will save the umpires the trouble of chalking the lines repeatedly, as they have to do now.

German Gleanings.

There are only fifty-five female physicians in the German empire.

Nine-tenths of Germany's population can be fed by products of her own soil.

Experiments are under way in Germany with more than thirty different processes for removing iron from drinking water, most of them forms of filtration.

A remarkable piece of work was recently shown at a German exhibition in the shape of a well executed landscape made of colonies of different colored bacteria thriving in gelatin and meat extract.

Church and Clergy.

Cardinal Vanutelli is the tallest of the Roman ecclesiastics.

The Lutherans are to place a field missionary in Canada for exclusive work in that section.

In the shadow of a volcano at Penon, Mexico, is what is probably the smallest church in the world. The building is about eleven feet high and twelve feet wide.

The Rev. Hannah M. Mulleneaux of Somerville is the only Congregational woman minister in the vicinity of Boston. She has had pastorates in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Law Points.

When the homestead has once attached to land it is held in Weaver versus First National bank, 76 Kan. 540, 94 Pac. 273, 16 L. R. A. (N. S.), 110, that it may persist for the benefit of a single individual who is the sole surviving member of the family.

Surrender of a note before the completion of a renewal note by securing a signature which the creditor has agreed to secure is held in Benson versus Jones (N. C.), 61 S. E. 193, 16 L. R. A. (N. S.), 343, not to release the liability of sureties on the first note.

Tales of Cities.

In Leipzig there are street kiosks where for a penny the city directory can be inspected.

New York city is now growing at the rate of 10,572 persons a month by the birth rate alone.

Chicago may soon have a forester to look after the planting and care of trees in the city streets. A citizens' committee has taken the matter up and is planning to ask the legislature to authorize such an official.

Things Theatrical.

Mary Nash has joined De Wolf Hopper's company.

Martha Morton's new play, "On the Eve," will be produced next season.

Byron Douglas has joined a stock company in Brooklyn as leading man.

Ethel Barrymore will continue her season in "Lady Frederick" until July.

Valerie Bergere has made a hit in her new vaudeville sketch, "A Prairie Flower."

A Child's Instinct.

It was a quiet Sunday afternoon when mother and little boy were having their accustomed Bible reading. He sat on her lap while she read to him the Twenty-third Psalm. Little fellow though he was, the tender, beautiful words seemed to stir his thought. Mother read to the end and then waited without a word. Little boy was silent, too, for a moment; then, reaching up and gently stroking mother's cheek, he said softly:

"Was it a little boy wivout his mamma?"—Success Magazine.

The Cause of the Delay.

Mrs. Benham—Why did you marry me?

Benham—I'll tell you tomorrow.

Mrs. Benham—Why not tonight?

Benham—I've got to find out myself first.—New York Herald.

Shifting the Responsibility.

"I see they have found the paresis germ."

"That's right. No matter how a man behaves, some derned old bug is sure to be blamed for it."—Smart Set.

Her Gift.

She has within her woman's hand to hold
A man's great heart, full pulsed and true and strong.
How now shall woman's victory be told?
Which conquest win, the rightful or the wrong?
She has within her honor or caprice
The gift of rapture and the curse of woe.
Which will she offer, misery or peace?
We answer both, for man will have it so.
—Town Topics.

The Time and the Offense.

"Oh, ma, teacher whipped Tommy Crow today!"

"What for?"

"For five minutes."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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