THE ART OF DRESS.

Those Colors Should Be Worn Which Harmonize With the Complexion.

Chevreuil lays down hard-and-fast rules about the tints that may be placed with advantage against certain complexions and those which are detrimental. But the truth is that the endless variety in the physical aspect of human beings is such that it is misleading to class them, in many cases, as "fair" or "dark" or under any general denomination whatsoever. The skin may have more or less of the bistre and yellow-ochre tones that belong to dark hair, though the hair itself may be of any shade from dust color to gold. The caprices of nature being so diverse it follows that such rules must be elastic, and are made to be violated almost as often as not. There is one rule, however, which seems to be absolutely inviolable. Where nature has been lavish with her colors the decorator should be sparing of them. No admixture of strong tints can heighten the brilliancy of a Rubens beauty; it rather detracts from it and fatigues the eye, the relief of contrast being needed. If the picture, instead of glowing, be subdued and low-toned, then the background, the accompaniments, the frame, so to speak, may with advantage do their best to draw attention to their subject, as the gold halos and gem-incrusted triptych will add force and value to the pale Madonna and saints which they inclose. Herein lies the great art of dress, to know just how far to draw attention to clothes and no further; never to allow them to impinge upon the interest that should be centered in the face. I have seen intelligent human beings who apparently chose that their attire should be the first and last thing one thought of in connection with them. No beautiful woman, if she be clever withal, makes this mistake. Her dress may be sumptuous; it may heighten her attractions if judiciously chosen; it should never astonish and bewilder us. We read of the gorgeous attire of Queen Elizabeth and are dazzled with the cloth of gold, the pearl-embroidered ruff, and jeweled stomacher recorded in Zuccchero's portraits of that vain and ill-favored sovereign. They are the woman, and take an undue prominence in our recollection of the thin, shadowless face surrounded and overpowered by so much magnificence. But of her beautiful rival's clothes we hear little, and, when we think of the Holyrood portrait of Mary, it is the refinement and dignity of the lady we remember, not the splendor of her apparel.—Fortnightly Review.

MAIL-DAY AT FAYAL.

Excitement on the Island on the Arrival of the Fortnightly Packet.

The arrival of the mail throws Fayal into a state of excitement. Half the population then come to town, and a hot and steaming crowd packs itself into the one post-office that the island possesses. As the postmaster, plainly conscious of his importance on an occasion which happens only once a fortnight, advances with the letters to the little desk which separates the throng from the offices the stranger is struck by the ridiculous disproportion between the size of the crowd and that of the packet, a circumstance which is explained by the fact that every woman expecting tidings from husband or son is accompanied apparently by the rest of the family. The jabber subsides into a buzz of suppressed excitement as the postmaster adjusts his spectacles with the most exasperating composure. He calls out the name on the topmost letter; a shrill voice on the confines of the crowd intimates its destination, when half a dozen hands are stretched out to receive it and it is passed over the heads of the crowd to the fortunate recipient. The buzz is renewed after each announcement; the postmaster has constantly to repeat his demand for silence, in which he is of course joined by such of the crowd as have not yet received a letter. As the delivery proceeds the crowd naturally gets noisier, and the postmaster becomes hot and angry with the exertion of shouting above the din. Although the number of letters is small—Christmastide brings quite as large a packet to many a country house at home—the work of distribution is long, for the circumstance that each recipient has on an average five or six names, which Portugese etiquette seems to demand shall be duly set forth on such a formal occasion as the dispatch of a letter.—Good Words.

A Considerate Governor.

There is a well-authenticated story of a Governor at one of our penal settlements, who, having fixed the dates when two of his convicts were to be hanged for stealing, remembered, a few days before the date named for the execution, that he had an important social engagement for that same afternoon. He sent for the men and explained to them his difficulty. "It can not matter much to you," said he, "whether you are hanged on Tuesday or Wednesday next. It is, however, a matter of some moment to me, and you would greatly oblige me if you would consent to be hanged on Tuesday instead of Wednesday, as named in the Gazette." The men were inclined to stand on their rights, so he told them to think over the matter. They came to him the next morning and agreed to his wish on certain terms, which he readily accepted. The conditions were so much rum and so much tobacco for each day previous to their execution. A few days thus rendered happy were better to them than one more day of dreary existence on prison fare.

—"Dear John," wrote his wife, "I am sorry to say Willie fell out of a swing yesterday and disabled himself. He will not be able to use his arms for a month—so the doctor says. He is getting along all right, but it makes him restless to stay indoors. When you return from the city please bring him something he can amuse himself with." "Willie," said the father, kindly, as he patted the little boy consolingly on the head the next day, "I have brought you that drum I promised you a year or two ago you should have some time."

BEATING DICK JONES.

Why Uncle Moses Concluded to Purchase Three Screen Doors.

There were a dozen or more fly-screen doors outside the store marked "Only $1.50 each," and when the farmer and his wife drove up their attention was at once attracted.

"That's exactly what I was going to ask for, she said, as she climbed down over the wheel to the platform.

"You was, eh? I'd like to know what we want of a screen door?" he growled.

"What does other folks want of 'em?"

"Sure 'nuff. If folks want to buy every gimcrack that comes out let 'em do it, but we hain't got no money to throw away."

"Moses, we've got to have a screen door," she observed as she went closer. "We are the only folks on the hull Center Line road without one."

"Has it hurt us any?"

"Yes, it has. There wasn't a tin peddler, lightning-rod man, piano agent or chicken buyer who called last summer but what throwed out a hint to us."

"And if they'd throwed out a hint that we orter have a door bell you'd take on till you got one, I s'pose."

"I don't say nothin' 'bout door bells, 'cause folks can knock when they come; but we do need a screen door."

"What fur?"

"They look rich from the road, and they keep flies and bugs out."

"We have kept house thirty-eight years now, and we orter be used to insects. Bugs and flies don't bother us none, and they are healthy anyhow."

"See how cheap they are, Moses," she continued, in pleading tones.

"Ya-as, but you kin buy the netting fur five cents a yard—white and green and yallar and all kinds. I tell ye, Martha, we can't afford it."

She sighed and was turning away, when the hardware man came out and briskly said:

"Ah, how are you, folks. Looking at those screen doors, eh? Powerful nice things to keep the flies out."

"Ya-as, I s'pose so," replied the farmer, "but we don't want any. I rather like to have flies around."

"Well, I couldn't let you have one of that lot, anyhow. Dick Jones takes the whole five."

"What! our Dick?"

"Yes, over on the corners."

"And he's all mortgaged up and can't buy a new plow!"

"There, Moses—what do you think!" exclaimed the wife.

"And Dick Jones has bought them doors?" he asked of the merchant.

"Yes, he'll take 'em."

"No he won't! Just load three of 'em into my wagon! I don't go much on gimcracks, and I know we don't need 'em, but I hain't going to let no turnip top like Dick Jones go swelling around over me—not this year! Come along, old woman, and pick ye out a forty-cent pair of stockings—yes, you may go as high as sixty! I'll be swashed if any family named Jones can sit on our coat-tails!"—N. Y. Sun.

BOOTH AND JEFFERSON.

The Two Famous American Actors as Negro Minstrels.

In 1850 when Mr. Edwin Booth was seventeen, and a year after his debut as Tressel at the Boston Museum, he gave an entertainment with Mr. John S. Clarke, a youth of the same age, at the court-house in Belair, Maryland. They read selections from Richelieu, The Stranger, and the quarrel scene of Julius Cæsar, singing during the evening with blackened faces a number of negro melodies, "using appropriate dialogue," as Mrs. Asia Booth Clarke records in the memoirs of her brother, "and accompanying their vocal attempts with the somewhat inharmonious banjo and bones." Mrs. Clarke reprints the programme of this performance, and pictures the distress of the young tragedians when they discovered, on arriving in the town, that the Simon Pure negro they had employed as an advance agent had in every instance posted their bills upside down. * * *

Mr. Joseph Jefferson, the third and present bearer of that honored name, was unquestionably the youngest actor who ever made his mark with a piece of burnt cork. The story of his first appearance is told by Mr. William Winter in his volume entitled "The Jeffersons." Coming from a family of actors, the boy, as was natural, was reared amidst theatrical surroundings, and when only four year of age—in 1833—he was brought upon the stage by Thomas D. Rice himself, on a benefit occasion at the Washington theater. The little Joe, blackened and arrayed precisely like his senior, was carried on to the stage in a bag upon the shoulders of the shambling Ethiopian, and emptied from it with the appropriate couplet, "Ladies and gentlemen, I'd have you for to know
I've got a little darky here to jump Jim Crow."
Mrs. John Drew, who was present, says that the boy instantly assumed the exact attitude of Jim Crow Rice, and sang and danced in imitation of his sable companion, a perfect miniature likeness of that long, ungainly, grotesque, and exceedingly droll comedian.—Laurence Hutton, in Harper's Magazine.

—Mr. Freehand—"I am delighted to meet you, Mr. Talefakir. I have read your latest novel with pleasure, and consider it a great work. I am a writer in a small way myself." Mr. Talefakir—"Ah! I am proud to win the good opinions of a fellow-craftsmen. May I ask what is your line of work?" Mr. F.—"Writing visiting cards."

—A split has occurred in the religious body known as the United Brethren in Christ. At the General Conference held in York, Pa., last week, resolutions were adopted declaring that Bishop Milton Wright and several delegates who were named have irregularly withdrawn from the body, and are no longer members of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. The question in dispute is regarding the recognition of secret societies. The seceding faction is opposed to allowing church members to belong to such societies.

PLASTERING WINES.

A Practice in Vogue Among Viticulturists of Southern France.

The Society of Pharmacy of Bordeaux some time ago ago appointed a committee to examine into the subject of *platrage*. This is a process in which plaster-of-Paris is added to wine both to clarify and preserve it. The effect of wine thus treated upon its consumers has long been a matter of doubt, some authorities regarding it as harmless, while others believed that such wine was injurious to health. The conclusions of this committee are as follows: 1. In the present state of viticulture in the south of France and in Algeria, the plastering of wines in the mash is almost always necessary, in order to give the wines the marketable qualities sought after by consumers. 2. Facts are wanting to show that plastered wines are injurious to health. 3. The experience of numerous populations that drink only plastered wine, the experience of many strangers who are continually traveling through the south of France and Algeria, drinking hardly any thing else than plastered wine, and methodical experiments by learned bodies, show that potassium sulphate in the proportion of sixty grains to the litre of wine produces no appreciable effect on the various functions of the economy. 4. The plastering of wines in the mash to the extent of producing this proportion of potassium sulphate may be authorized until facts rigorously deduced from extensive scientific experiments show the dangers or inconveniences of this amount as regards the public health. The Academy of Medicine, through a committee, has been investigating the same subject, and its conclusions are as follows: 1. The testimony and the facts analyzed in the present report demonstrate that excessive plastering exerts an injurious influence on the public health; 2. From the exclusive point of view of hygiene, the commission can not approve of the principle of the plastering of wines; 3. Nevertheless in view of the producers' and dealers' necessities, and especially taking the consumers' interest into account, it thinks that it would be imprudent to exclude from the market during certain years, by too absolute a measure, wines which thus far nothing but moderate plastering has proved capable of preserving 4. Considering that, if potassium sulphate is a natural constituent of pure wines, it never exists in them in a proportion above sixty centigrams to the litre, as analysis shows; that it has not been directly proved that potassium sulphate, even in the proportion of two grams to the litre of wine, has any noxious influence on health, but that it is necessary to fix the maximum of potassium sulphate which may, without appreciable danger, be produced in wine by plastering—the commission is of the opinion that the presence of potassium sulphate in the wines of commerce, whatever may be its origin, ought not to be tolerated beyond the maximum limit of two grams to the litre. The commission urges that the regulation formerly in force should be carried out strictly.—Science.

MARKS ON PAPER.

The Oldest Known Document Bearing a Plain Trade-Mark.

The oldest document or paper as yet discovered with a mark is the account book of 1301, supposed to be manufactured out of linen rags by the Holbein family at Ravensburg. Except this particular specimen, all paper manufactured by the Holbeins bears the "Bull's Head," doubtless taken from the coat of arms of that family, whereas this account book is marked with the "Globe and Cross." The Globe and Jug are the most ancient marks as yet discovered; and these, together with the Post-horn, which appeared about 1376, became by the end of the fourteenth century the principal marks on paper manufactured in the Low Countries, whence they spread during the ensuing hundred years to Gouda and Delft. Paper, as a rule, without any characteristic sign is the oldest, since the water-mark signifies a certain progress in the art of paper-making. Other noteworthy marks are a sprig with leaves and a fruit of flower; a drawn bow with an arrow; a perpendicular line with stars at each extremity between two circles; the letter R ensigned by a cross; two crescents through which a perpendicular line passes, terminating at each end; a cross, a bull's face, a demi-griffin, a pair of balances, the unicorn, an anchor, and "P" and "Y," the initials being those of Philip of Burgundy and his wife Isabella, whose name at the time would be usually spelled with a Y. The Duke married Isabella in 1430, and before that date P only is found; after that date, P and Y. Canton seems to have used paper chiefly obtained from the Low Countries, and in addition to the "Bull's Head" and the "P" and "Y" there will also be found the "Open Hand" worked on the paper on which the Golden Legends was printed in 1483, and also the "Unicorn." Other paper employed by this famous printer came from Germany, since in his "Recueil of the Histories of Troy (1468) there appeared the "Bunch of Grapes," which was a German mark. In the "Game of Chesse" the paper bears evidence of Italian origin, as there is the mark of an "Anchor enclosed by a Circle." The "Dolphin and Anchor" was a very famous mark, and after the "Bull's Head," perhaps the best known, the reason for this being because the device was extensively used by Aldo Manuzio, who has thus perpetuated to our day the ancient symbol of the city of Venice.—Chambers' Journal.

WIT AND WISDOM.

—You can dwarf a soul, just as you can dwarf a plant, by depriving it of a full environment.—Henry Drummond.

—There are many that despise half the world; but if there be any that despise the whole of it, it is because the other half despises them.—Colton.

—In family government let this always be remembered, that no reproof or denunciation is so potent as the silent influence of a good example.—Hosea Ballou.

SURE CURE FOR PILES.

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More diseases are produced by using brown and perfumed soaps than by any thing else. Why run such terrible risks when you know Dobbins' Electric Soap is pure and perfect. Dobbins' prevents hands from chapping.

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Some years ago I was thrown from a horse in McLennan county, and received a frightful wound on one of my legs. For more than a year I was unable to walk. The wound ulcerated and refused to heal, and every one thought I would have to submit to amputation. S.S.S. was recommended, and I used it freely, and I shall never get through thanking S. S. S. for saving my leg, and restoring me to perfect health. GARLAND WILSON,
Palestine, Texas, July, 24, '88.

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Is ruddy with a rose's grace.
Her eye is bright,
Her heart is light.
Ah, truly 'tis a goodly sight.
A few brief months ago her cheek
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"The end is near
For her, I fear."
Sighed many a friend who held her dear.
I can tell you what wrought the change in her. She was told by a friend, who, like her, had suffered untold misery from a complication of female troubles, that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription would certainly cure her. This friend "knowing whereof she spoke," for she had been cured by the remedy she advised her friend to use. She is enthusiastic in its praise, and tells her friends that Dr. Pierce deserves the universal gratitude of woman kind for having given it this infallible remedy for its peculiar ailments. It is *guaranteed* to give satisfaction in every case or money refunded.

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