

FASHIONS IN SHOES.

How the Fancies of Men and Women for Foot Coverings Have Changed.

There have been notable changes in the fashions of footwear within a generation. In earlier days males wore long top boots the year round almost exclusively, only varying in thickness. Even in this respect the variations were frequently limited to a process of oiling or "greasing." The women stuck quite persistently to low-cut shoes, or, to speak precisely, to slippers for Summer, and buskins for Winter. These dainty slippers laced with galloon upon the ankle produced a bewitching effect. Occasionally one saw a woman in booties. These were the pioneers of sidelace gaiters which came along later. Of course there was some better protection required to overcome the discomforts from deep snows and weariness of travel, for which the facilities were then so meager, and these were afforded by the ubiquitous woolen socks which were worn over the shoes and ankles. Save in large cities or villages very few of the new rubber shoes were worn. These were luxuries seldom indulged in, because of the cost and of the lack of knowledge as to their repellent qualities, as well as to the labor required in confirming the ungainly things to the contour of the shoe. In the course of events customs have changed materially. With the incoming of women's gaiter boots men began to grow more partial to shoes, and gradually discarded the long-leg appendage. The prevalence of hoop skirts among women rendered a species of protective footwear necessary, while on the other hand the style of tight-fitting trousers with men made the legs of boots an incumbrance. Rubber shoes, meanwhile, have become cheap and popular, so that both sexes are on a plane of equality in the matter of covering for the feet.

Alluding to oiling or greasing boots in early time for Winter service recalls the cheerful fireplace where the operation was conducted. This was before the era of stoves, when sitting around the ample wood fire of a Winter's evening was a signal for conviviality, with such wholesome refreshments as apples, pumpkin-pie and sparkling cider, and such amusements as checkers, fox or geese or 12-penny morris. The operation of greasing was usually performed with melted beef fat, though many affected neat-foot oil as superior. The task was usually allotted to one of the youngsters who rubbed the grease in with bare hand so long as the leather thoroughly heated by the fire, would soak it. This proceeding rendered the surface impervious to water, kept it soft and pliable as well, and helped to exclude cold. The objection to this treatment was that boots could never be polished, but plain country people didn't do that much, unless it might be some young men with a taste for sparking.

The custom of measurement shoemaking that formerly prevailed so extensively is worth mentioning. Sale work, called derisively "slop work," was rarely seen or handled. A shoe store in the most populous towns was a place where ready made shoes could be procured, though the largest portion of its customers left their measures, which were in turn transferred to various cordwainers to be attended to. Many of these latter made periodical visits to the house of customers and supplied their wants. The nicest boots were found among the importers. We had not then acquired the facility for producing a boot equal in style and fit to the French article.

When shoes began to supersede boots, over-gaiters came into use and have been worn ever since with scarcely any change. Not a few persons use them. There was not much difference in contour or construction between the gaiter of 1840 and that of 1885. At one period an alteration was tried, a steel spring was substituted for buttons, but it was an unsuccessful experiment, and was followed by a return to the original method.

The immediate predecessors of india-rubber shoes for wear in cities where paths were prepared during the snowy seasons, were articles technically des-

cribed as "galoches." They were, in fact, leather overshoes, save that the protection came to the sole of the foot rather than to other parts. The prototype of this shoe was the ancient "clog," which, indeed, was worn as a shoe or foot covering, instead of as an extraneous protector. In later years the "patten" of England was kindred to the "galoches." There was always something natty in the appearance of this article, and the facility with which it could be donned was in its favor as well. Yet, woe to the individual who attempted the use of a new pair upon icy walks where the hard and smooth soles beguiled frequent downfalling to the uninitiated. The original vulcanized rubber shoes had a leather bottom, and it constituted an objection hard to overcome because they were so slippery. The use of rubber bottoms came as a benison to the appreciation of this species of footwear.—From the Shoe and Leather Reporter.

"Are you superstitious, my dear?" said Miss Birdie McGinnis to a newly-arrived stranger in Austin, to whom she had become engaged. "Not a bit, but why do you ask?" replied the youth. "Nothing except you are the thirteenth gentleman to whom I have been engaged."—Texas Siftings.

We don't suppose there is any truth in the rumor that reaches us from Washington to the effect that the Congressional Record has joined the syndicate which prints illustrated stories and portraits of "Men of the Hour." A change in the literary character of the Record is desirable, but it already prints too much fiction.—Norristown Herald.

An English paper is of the opinion that the power of the dynamiters in this country should be curtailed.

We second the motion, as did the old ducky in the congregation when the preacher prayed that the power of Satan be curtailed. He said:

"Yes, amen! Bress de Lord. Cut his tail smack, smooove off."—Texas Siftings.

A little boy was told that he must never ask for anything at the table, as it was not good manners to do so. The consequence was that he was frequently overlooked.

One day his father said: "Johnny, get me a clean plate for my lettuce."

"Take mine, pa; it's clean," and he added, with a sigh: "There hasn't been anything put on it yet."—Texas Siftings.

Adam Smith was a cattle-dealer, and was a very wicked man. A camp-meeting was in progress in his locality, and among many others who were converted were several members of his family. At last he consented to visit the meeting, and during the progress of the service one of his daughters came around to where her father was sitting, and in tears she said to him: "Father, I am wedded to the Lord."

"Wedded to who, did you say, Mary Ann?"

"The Lord, father."

"If that's so, b'gosh, the Smiths have got into a good family at last."—Pretzel's Weekly.

Mrs. Judge Peterby of Austin employs a colored cook named Matilda Snowball, who is a great favorite with the sterner sex, but who is very high-toned nevertheless.

"Who was that horrid-looking negro I saw prowling around the back yard?" asked Mrs. Peterby indignantly.

"Dat's a feller I keep company wid on week-days."

"On week-days?"

"Yes, mum; yer don't s'pose I'd be seen wid sich a bandy-legged, goggle-eyed moke like him on Sundays, does yer? Yer orter see de cullud gemman I keeps company wid on Sundays. You'd be s'prised, yer would."—Texas Siftings.

Our agents are advised that we cannot pay commissions upon reduced prices. The Reporter for all of 1887 will be \$1.50 (to Jan. 1, 1888), but the subscriber must remit us the full amount. Remit money by Postal Order, Registered letter or express, at our risk, but not at our expense.

The Kinds of Life Not Worth Living

A life of mere money-getting is always a failure, because you will never get as much as you want. The poorest people in this country are the millionaires, and next to them those who have \$500,000. There is not a scissors grinder in New York or Brooklyn so anxious to make money as those men who have piled up fortunes for years. The disease of accumulation has eaten into them. That is not a life worth living. There are too many earthquakes in it, too many shipwrecks, too many perditions. They build their castles and open their pictures galleries and make every inducement for happiness to come, but she will not.

So also a life that chiefly strives for worldly approval is a failure. The two most unfortunate men in the United States for the next six months will be the two Presidential nominees. Two great reservoirs of maladiction have been gradually filling up, and about midsummer they will be brimming full, and a hose will be attached to them and they will begin to play on the two nominees, and they will have to stand and take it—the falsehood, the caricature the venom, the filth, and they will be rolled over in it and choked with it.

The same thing is seen on a smaller scale in the strife for social position. Good morals and intelligence are not necessary; but wealth, or the show of wealth, is absolutely indispensable. It don't make any difference how you get your wealth, if you only get it. Perhaps you get it by failing four or five times—the most rapid way of accumulation in this country. If a man fails once he is not so very well off; but if he fails twice he is comfortable, and by the time he fails three times he is affluent. But when you really lose your money, how quick they will drop you! High social life is constantly in a change—insecurity dominant, wretchedness dominant and a life not worth living.—Dr. Talmage.

A Shying Horse.

To the inquiry, Why does a horse shy? the National Live Stock Journal replies: Because he sees something which he does not understand, and is filled with a greater or less degree of fear, something as the boy feels when he shies at the burying ground, and goes around to keep clear of it. It may be some new or unusual object that the horse sees, or it may be an imperfect view of it. Even a familiar object, if it comes to view suddenly and unexpectedly, will cause a horse to shy or jump, just as an unexpected object or sound causes a nervous person to start. When a person is so startled, how much would it improve the matter to be scolded at or given a cut with a whip? Just as much as the same treatment would in the case of the horse. Harshness only aggravates the matter.

The more the horse is scolded and whipped, the more nervous he gets; and every time he passes the place where the fright and whipping occurred, he will recollect the unpleasant affair, and he will begin to prick up his ears and fidget, ready for another jump. Give him the lines, and he will go by in a hurry. The proper way is never to strike or scold a horse that is startled or frightened. Speak to him coolly, calmly, and kindly; give him time to see and collect his scattered senses, and make him feel that you are his friend and protector. When he sees that all is right, there is an end to all further trouble. We have seen a horse refuse to cross an unsafe-looking bridge; but when the driver took him by the bits and walked ahead, the horse cautiously followed. Next time he required no coaxing or urging to cross the bridge. He might have been whipped into it at first, but was not the milder course, although a little trouble, the better one? The horse showed his confidence in the driver ever afterward.

Bring on your job work. We are now prepared to do job work in the latest and most approved style of the art.

The Weekly Reporter, a faithful and complete compendium of the week's news, is furnished for 12½ cents a month.

NEW TO-DAY.

JOHN J. SAX,  
Has his  
Feed Chopping Mill

In Running Order,  
—AND—  
Will chop Feed for \$2 per ton  
or one-tenth toll.

Farmers and others having grain to chop can come to my mill, and attend to any business in the city to better advantage than driving two miles out of town to get their chopping done.  
JOHN J. SAX,  
McMinnville, Or.

The Central Hotel,  
Dining Station of the O. C. R. R.  
McMinnville, Oregon.  
F. Multner, Prop.  
(Late of the St. Charles.)

This Hotel has just been refitted and newly refurnished throughout, and will be kept in a first class style.  
The table is supplied with all the market affords, and guests can rely upon good clean beds, and comfortable rooms.  
Special accommodations for commercial travelers.

SEVENTH ANNUAL



FIREMAN'S FAIR

—OF THE—

McMinnville Fire Department,

—AT—

Garrison Opera House,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday,  
February 22d, 23d and 24th,  
1887.

LIST OF PRIZES.

There will be prizes given on the following named exhibits:

- 1st and 2d prize for best and 2d best exhibit of Kensington painting.
- 1st and 2d prize, for best and 2d best exhibit of Kensington embroidery.
- 1st and 2d prize, for best and 2d best exhibit of outline work by a child under 14 years of age.
- 1st and 2d best, for best and 2d best exhibit of work of any kind by a boy under 14 years of age.
- 1st and 2d prize, for best and 2d best exhibit of crayon work.

There will also be a prize given for the heaviest, lightest and prettiest baby under 1 year of age.

Following is a list of prizes offered: For the prettiest baby, gold necklace; lightest and heaviest baby under one year of age, each a gold ring; outline work by a child under fourteen years, first prize, ear rings, second prize, scrap book; Kensington embroidery, first prize, napkin ring, second prize, box writing paper; Kensington painting, first prize, manicure set, second prize, bracket; crayon work, first prize, paper holder, second prize, pitcher; boy's work, first prize, paper holder, second prize, inkstand.

Parade of Firemen Tuesday afternoon.

Doors will be open at 7 o'clock, p. m. daily, during the Fair.

—All are invited to Attend—

Admission 25 Cents.

By Order of COMMITTEE.