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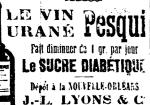
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WHERE WOMEN CONSIDER SPEECH A PRIVILEGE. The Armenian Bride, the Mother-in-lav and the Head of the Family-Courtship

and Wedding Customs - Breadmaking Armenian Names. [Copyright, 1896, by the Author.] The loss or partial loss of eyesight, or, in fact, any physical deformity, causes an Armenian girl to becom marriageable according to the belief in

most parts of her native country,

The birth of a girl is at the best considered a misfortune with most Armenians, especially in the villages, and when such an event occurs calls of condolence are made upon the unfortunate family. But while to be a woman is, in a degree, a diagrace, it is nothing compared to the degradation of being married, and to be a barren wife is to bear the deepest ignomizy that can

befall a woman. As the women of Armenia are looked ween as the burden bearers it is neces sary for them to be physically perfect in order to be raised from their low es tate to the honor of marriage. The custom of selling brides prevails there, and in many of the villages they are sold at

the rate of from \$20 to \$300.

The old form of betrothal, which free quently is practiced, is most ceremoni ous and takes much time. When a de sirable bride has been found, the mother of the prospective bridegroom sends a woman friend to the mother of the bride to make proposals. If satisfactory, an official messenger is then sent by the father-in-law elect. After the required time of waiting has passed more mes-sengers are sent, refreshments are served and proposals again made and accepted.

The usual request of the bride's mother at this time is that her daughter shall not be kept from speech or have her head tied up for more than a year. The lot of a bride is a hard one at the best. While the women of a family may not eat until the men have finished. the bride is obliged to wait until all

have left the table. When there are

MISFORTUNE OF SEX. | along, the bride by two married women and the bridegroom by two married or unmarried men, it being immaterial in this case. The family of the bridegroom go to the church, but the bride's people

remain at home and mourn. In the villages marriage feasts last sometimes for several days. The outfit of a bride includes an apron which she must make herself. This is of thickish material, filled in with silk and wool threads of bright colors. The yazinah, which is the national headdress for the women, may be of any color which is referred and is worn in various ways. A bride usually has several of these. The veil is a small square of gauze of some bright color, edged with white lace and embroidered in one corner with spangles, the design always being the

Village girls are marriageable when 12 or 18 years old, but in the city they do not wed before they are 18 or 30.

Another peculiarity of the women of Armenia is that they never go unat-tended. If no male relative or servant is at hand, any child from 5 to 10 years old will answer. This is the custon both with the upper and lower classes. Custom also prevents them from barry-ing bandles, however small. Even when going to church a servant or small brother or sister takes the prayer book.

Though packages are tabooed, the tezbeh-a string of beads resembling a rosary-forms a part of the possessions of nearly every Armenian and usually is carried about, especially by the older people, and is fingered and mumbled over even while conversation is carried on as well as at other times. This race is a most hospitable one, and

a call is never made, even upon poorest family, without a cup of Turkish coffee being offered to the guest. While it is considered a disgrace for

an Armenian woman to work for other than her own family, she does a large share of the home work both in the housekeeper. These women, in general, are apt with the needle and are good musicians. With the poorer class breadmaking is a common occupation. In some places in Armenia bread is

made only once in three months, and several brides in a family, the first has then in large quantities. It is baked in



nother-in-law when that person dies. it to the head of the house, the fatherin-law, who gives either a gift of money or the liberty of speech, the latter being considered the greatest of all gifts. When a child is born to the mother of the house, it is a special honor to be allowed to bear the child to the father. In one family a bride, so called, had

Shortly after a betrothal has been de clared the parents of the young man in-vite a few friends and then visit the family of the young woman, taking gifts to seal the bargain which is to be made. Then friends are called in, the gifts are accepted and this ceremony is consider ed nearly as legal as the marriage service. This latter function takes place very

soon afterward and is very elaborate. At sundown of the wedding day the family of the bridegroom gives a dinner, and following that the bridegroom is dressed by several of his male friends, who, while performing this service, sing some national hymn. When ready for departure, the parents kiss their son and then serve drinks to the friends who are present, while congratulations are being made to them and to the grand

father of the bridegroom, if there be one.
At midnight a candle is taken by each one of the party and the start is made for the bride's home. A supper also has been given there, but the bride was not allowed to be present. Sometimes a pretense is made by the bride's family no to unders' and the meaning of the late visit by this number of people, and no notice of them is taken until there come a loud knock at the gate and the cry, "Bring out the bride!" The doors are then thrown open and the bride appear in her wedding costume with her face entirely concealed by her weil. Going to the bridegroom's family, she kneel and kisses the hands first of the me and then of the women, in their order the most honorable always being place farthest from the door. Then refresh ments are served, but the bridal couple

can take nothing unless in secret. When being taken to church, which is next on the programme, the bride and bridegroom hang back and are dragged

more liberty and takes the place of the the ground in a cemented hole, the chimney being overhead. This is such an undertaking that it is necessary for made of pine and hard wood and watched until there are live coals and no smoke. Then one of the women, who has her right arm bandaged to prevent its being burned, occasionally dipping it in water, puts the bread in the ove while the other woman rolls the dough been married for 80 years, and yet in all that time the liberty which she so some time, but the actual time of cook some time, but the actual time of cook eagerly desired had not been granted to ing is but a few minutes. At a large her. As children were born to the baking some 800 or 400 slabs, as they mother-in-law this bride obtained permission to carry them to the head of the house but she payer received the gift away on high shelves until wanted and then are slightly moistened before being



women to work together. A fire is

The surnames of Armenians have lit tle variety, as these are determined by



AN ARMENIAN GIRL and as in most families the occupation never varies the one name is borne throughout the entire generation. For example, the men of one family may be farmers; of another, cobblers, and of another, shopkeepers, and the business descends from father to son and grandson. The first part of the surname is the word which in the Armenian language means the occupation-farmer, obbler or shopkeeper-and the last three letters, "ian," are the same in every Armenian surname. GERTRUDE EASTMAN PERKINS.

OLD PAINTINGS.

Whatever oditoring the whole human race concerns women just as much as men. It is therefore of vital importance that women should understand perfectby the great political and economic ques-tions of the day. It is not enough to let your politics be made for you by your husband, father or brother. Think your side out for yourself. It is not enough either to merely learn to repeat parrot like political and economic doctrines as old fashioned children used to have to the public. The evening gowns, with learn the catechism. It requires years of their low necks and short sleeves, look learn the catechism. It requires years of reading, study, thinking and experience to get on the right side of large themes. A case that to me was distressing came within in knowledge here in New York. A woman put herself forward as a stump speaker. Women stump speakers are considerably the fashion this year. But this particular one undertook to instruct an audience of men and tell them why they should vote a certain way. She repeated, parrotlike, what she had committed to memory glibly enough Then one of the men asked her a ques tion. She floundered and boggled and understand what she was talking about Result—the usual masculine sneer at women in politics. In this instance it was deserved, more's the pity. If women and girls would take part of the time they spend over trifles in trying to fathom the science of national economics, both they and future generations would be wiser, healthier and better off. The winter season is at hand. The woman's club will soon be active. Map but fer your club a course of political and ecogold, silver and paper, the tariff ques tion and questions of of labor and capital may be mutually reconciled. Hold your meetings in strict parliamentary order. The campaign documents, political platforms and the leading speeches of each political party, also college textbooks, will give you information. Take nobody's word in making up your mind, but get all the and make up your own mind. There is one infallible way to tell which political olicy is right. Take always the side of the greatest good to the greatest number. It is better that every family should have an income of \$5,000 a year than that

THE NEW WOMAN.

Acquaint Yourself With Social,

few immensely rich. Shall women work outside the omes and earn money? They shall do exactly as they please about it and it is ess but their own whether they do of do not

w families should have an income of

\$100,000 and the rest have nothing or

be the mere serfs and hirelings of the

Mrs. A. H. Rinehart of Denver may well ask why her sex should be consid ered weak creatures. Mrs. Rinehart

It is pleasant to greet a gifted ne poet among women, and it is not in the least surprising that she hails from the west—the very far west. The new poe is Miss Ella Higginson of New What com, Wash. In a tiny, dainty book called "A Bunch of Western Clover" the young lady has published sweet, strong They show that the art of poetry is not yet dead in America. Miss Higginson gives promise of making an im-

A widow whose husband died after 40 years of married life writes to s spiritualistic periodical complaining lete husband. She save that after having been his wife for 40 years on earth she thinks she is justly entitled to a rest from him after he is dead. I think

Sometimes I am not surprised that men have a poor opinion of women's ability. Women take so little pains to show that they have any.

It is not the power to do a thing by murts and starts that counts. It is the going to office or to the appointed task day after day, week after week, year after year, never letting up, never givendure such long continued strain as is necessary to achieve business success. I know better. Women are as capable of sustained effort as men are, when they

At Williamsburg, on Long Island, are situated a group of jute mills. Girls work in them. These girls are so strong, healthy and athletic that no man dares to he rade to them. They can box, swim, swing Indian clubs and lift heavy weights. They can strike with their strong fists a blow that staggers a weakng man and they do not hesitate to do it if they desire to. If a burglar, or even a mouse, got into their rooms they would not scream and faint. They would capture the burglar and kill the nouse. It is said that none of these jute narried to have her hughand disciplined in the police court for beating her. She just disciplines him herself

If I were a girl in the country I think should take a course at one of the excellent state dairy schools and learn to e a first class butter and cheese maker One woman, a graduate of the Pennsylvania dairy school, is now head butter maker in a large creamery in Vermont. She receives a handsome salary. The butter she makes has so fine a reputation that she could get an excellent place any day she should be out of employment. She and an assistant make sometin 1,700 pounds of butter in a day

The time women spend in visiting, entertaining and in the useless and not eldom monstrous ornamentation of their clothes would make them, if used right, most accomplished and useful tembers of society.

ELIZA ARCHARD CONNER.

NEW EVENING GOWNS COPIED AFTER

One Might Think Mme. Recamier Had Come to Life Again-For Debutantes Hairdressing-Stylish Novelties In Fur and Velvet-New Wrans. [Copyright, 1896, by the Attibor.] The usual display of handsome even

ing dresses takes place at the same tim so cold when seen in the glare of daylight that it needs the presence of the furs to overcome the shill that falls on the beholder. These new evening gowns are in several ways femarkable. Almost ing, and the result is uncanny and ghostlike. There was one gown where the skirt was of pure white tulle gathered straigh around and with a deep hem at the bot-tom. With every stitch that was set in the hem a wax pearl bead was sewed. There was a rather scant slip of white taffeta under the tulle. The waist was made in cornelet form, but was not very deep. It was covered with gold and silver braid with pearls set here and there. Around the lower edge of the corsele was a double ruching of the narrow lac so much liked a season ago. This ruch: ing is seen on many garments this sea son too. Above the correlet there is puffed drapery of tuile, forming in front and festoous over the chest At the arm there are set four large pearl beads and these hold the puff of talle th the corselet one would say that Mme. Recamier had come to life again wearing the same old gown. Last winter there were numbers of gowns where the sleeves drooped from the shoulders nearly to the elbow, and in place of the sleeves where they belonged there were straps of ribbon with bows on the top.

This left the rounded part of the shoulder peeping out between the bow and the bleeve. There was another tulle dancing frock of white with longitudinal rows of butter colored valenciennes half an inch wide sewed all around the skirt was straight and gathered full at the waist. The corsage was of golden brown satin, slightly pointed and edged with the narrow lace. Five other rows encircled it. There was a stomacher of white satin stiffly worked in silver threads and amber beads. Around the neck, which was hollowed out moderatethere was a festooued bertha caught in front by a diamond and topaz pin. The sleeves were puffed and of the tulle, sewed with the lace. There were close

quaint and deliciously reminiscent of old times. But it was not quite a pronounced as another one. This had a skirt of apple blossom pink taffets, with a rose plaited ruffle of pink silk mull, with the edges pinked out. The waist was of turquoise blue silk, all save the stomacher, which was of pink silk mull frilled on horizontally. There was a big chou, or "cabbage," at the



left side of the square neck. Across the in graduated sizes. Another spray followed the outline around the neck. ing down, that makes up the sum of achievement. They say few women can of each shoulder, and a full cravat of The new young man, however had the mull, which covered the whole throat and tied in the back. The chest bare. The sleeves were tight to the elbow, where they were finished with an upmull ruffle. This was called a picture gown, and so it was, and a pretty one

I notice that for debutantes and very young ladies generally tulle over crisp affets will be the oftenest seen. The most of these dresses will have "bebe waists." with sashes of light ribbon. There is a taffeta ribbon, sometime plain and sometimes changeable but always with a velvet edge. This is very effective over those misty tulles. Moire sashes are also handsome. Sword sashes are new. They are doubled and sewed into the shape of a saber, or a scimiter. Two of them are then tied together with more of the silk or ribbon, and in such a way that two short pieces stand up-ward like hilts. I fancy that this idea was taken from the Japanese. Anyhow it is novel and serves to make up the variety which is the spice of life.

Hairdressing is a potent factor in the appearance of the new styles of garnts now in vogue. The picturesque waved bandeaux, with the quaint knot on the top of the head, is oftenest noticed, but not all can wear their hair The crimping pin and curling iron are absolutely necessary to the coiffure of today, and so are "shells," or horsehair rolls of different shapes and sizes. The high pompadour rolls above the forehead and the bowknots, as well as a dozen other things, all require them. For evening waves, rolls and ourls are all put together. The curls are usually the little endy frizzes that look so untidy, and they are at the top of the

UP TO DATE FASHIONS hair. Bound wreaths of roses, lileos or bliles of the valley are twined about the

with great care, as no one who is not absolutely bald wears a hat. The ladies go bareheaded or wear the tiniest and flattest of bonnets. This has called forth from its forgotten place the lovely "fas-cinator" and the enchanted opera hood. These two last named articles ought to be blessed of women, for no man can re-

A new bodice for the theater was too dainty to pass without mention. It was of pink silk, covered with cream lace and had wide bands of black velvet rib. bon sewed all around the waist. The bow sleeves were of pink taffets, with slashed cuffs to match the slashes at the



BODICE AND FUR WRAP FOR THEATER oction. There was a full ruffle of pink silk mull edged with white lace. A novel theater wrap was in form of a jacket of ermine. There were but daps place which crosses the shoulder and in piace of sleeves. A crushed resette of forms the only sleeves there are. The pink taffeta was oil the back of the high ontline of the shoulder is clearly visible collar. The wrap did not meet in front through the tulle, and if it were not for by four inches, and this was filled in with pink taffeta in side plaits. A very useful and stylish novelty in

fur capes and combinitions is shown. There is a tight bodice or basque of fur; with a velvet cape attached to it in a military style, leaving an open space to show the underbodice. These are made for show in some cases, and of very rich velvet heavily embroidered with gold braid and bordered with sable. In other ases the bodice is of velvet or veluting and the cape of Persian lamb suiting or astrakhan. The idea is to provide something to protect the waist against the cold while having the stylishness of the cape with its high collar. The stole and collet are the best liked of the small fur garments. These are made in all sorts of furs, Russian sable, Persian lamb, stone marten, blue and black fox chinchilla, seal, mink, skunk. Hudson bay sable and many other furs of le value. It would almost seem as if every-thing that had fur had been killed off to make women warm. I think more animals are killed to provide furs than birds for their plumage. Velvet wraps are exceptionally rich and elegant. A new importation is of

superb black velvet, laid in four deep box plaits to a yoke. This yoke is richly sewed with gold braid and fine jet and cold beads. Instead of sleeves it has two half capes sewed in. These full in mag-nificent sweeping folds. It is lined with HENRIETTE ROUSSEAU.

THE NEW YOUNG MAN.

The difficulty with the new young young man, who has come to be 44 or io years in these days, was full of faults, and his parents spent their lives reproving him and praying for his

him. His father in particular felt it his duty to pounce upon him regularly and deny him anything he seemed to esjoy, to order him to bed just when the hour for swinging on his Ann Eliza's gate came, and to reprove him for such evi deeds as reading light literature on Sunday or drinking root beer in the foom behind the candy shop of Saturday ings. He thought that he was very lenient. He had had a harder time himself. and, as for grandfather, he remembers being flogged in the back parlor for carrying a secreted latchkey tied about his

no faults to be reproved for, committee no crimes for which he might be flog and part of the shoulders were thus left ged. Morally he knows that he is not only a better young man than his pred-cossors were, but a higher evolution, turned blue cuff, with a very full plaited a being on a superior plane, and he feels it his province to do all he can to improve these older ones, though at so late moment, and gives them the benefit of his advice on all occasions. He tries to put an end to their bad habits. To the glass of bottled beer his father always takes after supper, for instance, he particularly objects.

"A pernicious habit," he tells him gravely. "Let me read you my tract on prohibition, and you'll know what that beer is doing to you. I saw you give some to mamma just now as well. On the same high principles he denie

his father his cigar and breaks his grandfather's pipe. Of this deed his mother approves, for she hates smoke only it is harsh of him, she thinks, to stop their game of whist, which she en

joys.

'I don't see any harm in it," she sighs. 'English clergymen play whist.''

'They are very wrong, then,'' says the worthy son. 'Don't you know, mamma, that gambling games are played with cards and that whist might lead on to staking all you had at the gaming table? When I think what danger you are in, I feel obliged to go to the Young Men's Perfection society and ask them to pray for my parents, fast gliding along the downward road. The new young man is, in fact, a

very surprising creature, but still more surprising is the pride with which his parents speak of their son without a parents speak of their son without a parents speak of their son without a made with the needle require to be as carefully set as do the genuine and are not less often abused.

MARY EARLE. very surprising creature, but still more ISABELLA PROCTOR.

ONE WOMAN'S VIEW. Mary Kyle Dallas Sees Better Times For

There was a time when it was expected of American women to becom not in the process of nature, which, alas, is inevitable, but at a fixed period which varied with locality, and came earlier in small New England villages than elsewhere.

At this time-whatever popular opinon decreed that it must be-the unfortunate victim of anwritten, social laws was obliged to eschew the wearing what were called "ringlets," long curls of hair arranged like candles on either side of the face, to cease the decking of her bonnet with "plumes" or artificia flowers, to wear sashes no longer and to go no more to evening parties.

I am credibly informed also that it

was considered "frivolous" of her to "keep up" her accomplishments, as music, flower painting, embroidery and the rianufacture of wax fruit. She was not even to read novels or poetry any lon-ger, but always to keep in her workbas-ket such serious works as sermons, essays on death and the unpleasant prospects of poor sinners afterward, and generally to depress herself as much as possible. The deficiencies which will ocur as to teeth and hair in the course of lifetime she dared not supply lest he should be called vain, and there she was stranded, at perhaps her forty fifth year, branded "old" and poked away in the kicthen when any fun was going on. I have never heard that she was forbidden any of the hard housework of coarse sewing that made part of the de lights of life in the good old days which people are fond of lamenting, but she was restrained, on penalty of being thought light minded, from all that was light, bright, pretty and amusing.

The suttee which the Hindoo widow

was expected to perform was not a bit more barbarous. In fact it was really much kinder, though the world made so American women had to get up and

rescue themselves from being buried alive by a ridiculous superstition. Slowly but surely they have done it.

The first thing they did was to remove the family Bible, with birth records in it, from the pariof table, where callers had a chance to refer to it, as the time to brand its owner as old approached. Then they put their arms akimbo and adopted the French bonmot, "A woman is as young as the looks," Later they is as young as she looks.' took a step more and seized upon that which Frenchmen had appropriated for themselves, and defied the world with 'A woman is as old as she feels.' they "skipped for joy" like "the little hills" and refused to become old at all. Today women of every age wea

what pleases them, do what they enjoy. learn anything that is to be learned, en marry men young enough to be their sons (if their taste runs that way), rush about over the country on bicycles, an do as they please generally in spite of any number of chronological neighbors at ages when a century ago they would have been crammed into rocking chairs, with pillows behind their backs, and left there to dry up and blow away.

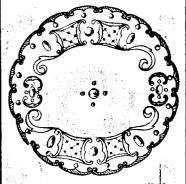
MARY KYLE DALLAS

EMBROIDERY.

A Simple Jeweled Design For a Delly. More Ambitious Work.

The last new thing in embroidery tnown as jewel work from the fact that it is supposed to represent jewels scattered here and there. While undoubtedly considerable must be called into play before amethysts, rubies, turquoises and the like can be discovered in the rounds and ovals called by their names, it is effective, and it is novel. Just at the present

moment garnets are in highest favor. The design given is a simple one. All its color is confined to the gems. Which are indicated by ovals and circles. The Suresu des Billets du Q. & C. model from which the drawing was made is designed for use with dainty blue and white china, and nile turquoises are used, but it might easily b edge is buttonholed with white floss. All the design is worked with white excepting only the turquoises, which are stuffed and worked in French over and over stitch with blue floss as near to the color of the real jewel as possible. The



effect is delightful, and the doily har monizes to perfection with the dinner service for which it was made.

The use of a single jewel, such as the turquoise, has the advantage of simplicity, and work so done requires less knowledge of harmony than does a con bination. Two or more gems can be used, however, to give a rich and ele gant result. Often the design proper is executed in color, but white as a foun dation is safest and can be trusted to set forth the jewels at their best. An ambitious piece of work shows the topaz and amethyst combined and is reall very effective. The colors being bril-liant and decided it can only be used with judgment, but as a resting place for a cut glass bowl of maidenhair fern it is decorative in the extreme. Used with one whit less knowledge, however, it might easily become atrocious. As

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