

WOMEN OF THE WEST

INTERESTING NOTES ABOUT THEM
BY ELIZA ARCHARD CONNER.Bold, Persistent Wife Hunters of the
Pacific Slope and Some of Their
Peculiar Methods—Feminine Workers Do
Well In the Northwest.

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In the east we often hear that any woman can get a husband in the far west. I am inclined to think this is true. And such husbands! One day we were talking to a lady in a Seattle hotel. She was a traveler on her way to Alaska. While we talked a card was brought to her. She excused herself and was gone perhaps ten minutes. When she returned, she wore a weird smile all over her face. In the ten minutes she had had a proposal of marriage from a man she had never seen before. He had heard of her, however, and got the impression she was a rich widow. He thought it likely she wanted a man to manage her property for her and was ready to sacrifice himself. He owned to 70 years and had a bald head and a beard down to his waist, but it did not occur to him to go into his closet and ask himself what a rich widow would want with him.

One day we were at a farmhouse a few miles out of Seattle. In accordance with hospitable rural usages the old hired man was introduced to us. He, too, was a case of man wanting a wife. He was 66, was not much to look at, was unacquainted with finikin and foolish bath-tubs, yet he, too, was in pursuit of a rich widow. He had found one whom he called a "grass widow" to whom he had made overtures. She was not rich exactly, but she drew him to her and held him fast in chains of fascination by the fact that she made a "powerful good cup of coffee."

So far as I have been able to note, the men who are crying for wives out here are largely of the same type—venerable Capricorns drifted together and stranded on the shores of time, men whom few women would have. In this wonderful west, though, I do believe women have a better chance industrially than in the east. For one thing they are scarcer in proportion to men than in the older states and are appreciated accordingly. Every girl and woman in Seattle seems to have at least one devoted sweetheart, often two and three, when she walks abroad.

There are a number of women physicians in successful practice in this beautiful coast city. One young woman, a graduated practitioner in her chosen profession, has an excellent business as an optician. I found, too, an unpretentious little house in which as good a Turkish bath can be got as one may obtain anywhere in New York city. In the Seattle establishment are no mosaic floors, tiled walls or marble slabs, yet you get a scrubbing and massaging that make you feel as if you owned the earth for a week. The place is conducted by a woman, strong, skillful and independent, who makes an excellent living for herself and her father and mother from the baths. She is of an inventive turn as well and has devised various appliances of her own that add to the efficiency of her treatments. The Seventh Day Adventists, a sect of religionists that are spreading like wildfire along the Pacific coast, have enmeshed my Turkish bath friend in their doctrines. She has in consequence made a profound study of the Scriptures, and is more familiar with Bible texts than any other person I ever saw. She likewise impresses the tenets of her faith on her customers while she scrubs them, humming softly at intervals strange, unearthly hymns about the second coming of the Christ, the sea of jasper and the new heavens and new earth.

Not so pious, but equally interesting, I found the Ladies' Military band that played in a big music hall in Seattle. The organization started in Chicago, among a number of musical young women with a taste for cornet, trombone and drum. Except two or three of the great orchestras famed the country over, these young women play as well as any band I ever heard. There is no claptrap or attempt to catch



MRS. CONNER CLAD IN LEATHER.

the eye of their audience by fantastic dress. They are business from start to finish. Clad usually in plain white gowns, they sit night after night and pour out music on the smoke and beer laden atmosphere of a great hall filled with men of every shade of manners and morals and are no whit the worse for it. They have learned their role so well that they need no conductor to stand and wave a baton over them. One of them, a drummer, managed three instruments, the bass and tenor drums and the cymbal. She banged the great drum with her foot by means of a pedal attachment, while she delicately thumped the small one with the drumsticks in her hands. It was like a woman rocking the cradle with her foot while she does knitting work with her hands.

These three, the girl orchestra, the

lady optician, the strong woman humming softly hymns of the second coming of the Messiah while she scrubs you, are among my many pleasant remembrances of Seattle, a beautiful city always beyond reason afflicted by a floating population of women with a history and men doing their level best to make a history they would die of shame to have published in their home paper.

Mrs. McDannold and I have found that we did well not to purchase our arctic wardrobe till we came to the Pacific coast. Far clothing has been proved not to be just the thing for



MRS. McDANNOLD DRESSED FOR ALASKAN WEATHER.

Alaska except in the very coldest weather, however fascinating it is to the eastern tenderfoot imagination. It is too warm most of the time, and when wet with rain or snow it seems to weigh a ton. Alaskan needs have developed a costume known familiarly as asbestos skin clothes. They are made of sheepskin tanned in a way to be waterproof. The Alaskan miners who wintered last year on the Arctic circle told us they wore in the coldest weather first a suit of lisle thread next the skin, then over that a set of the asbestos leather underclothing, and upon this a coat and trousers also made of the tanned sheepskin.

Women's suits, as well as men's, are made of the new material. Thus already has American inventive genius devised a vast improvement on the three suits of heavy woolen underwear, one above the other, worn—heaven defend us—all winter without change, and far outside of that, which used to be thought the only garb for Alaska. The cotton clothing next the skin can be easily and frequently washed. Apparently clean people can be clean even in Alaska. Upon their feet the miners wore common cotton stockings, outside of these the fearful and wonderful felted woolen contrivances called here German socks, and upon these again sealskin moccasins with moosehide soles.

This outfit—everything is called an "outfit" in these parts—they declared

kept their feet warm in the coldest weather, besides once more affording pleasant possibilities in the matter of frequent change of the fabric next the skin. A pair of blankets and a fur robe, that may be spread out flat and aired at any time, take the place of that time honored sleeping bag which is the ideal of the eastern tenderfoot.

ELIZA ARCHARD CONNER.

NOTES OF WOMEN WORKERS

Butterfly training is the unique field of work which Miss Helen Jenyngs has chosen. Several years ago she began the task in spite of the warnings from scientific friends that she would never succeed. Her few attempts were failures, but she patiently persisted, and at last accounts she possessed nearly 100 butterflies, which are well trained.

A Georgia woman makes livelihood by taking care of graves for repining but indolent mourners. She not only keeps cemetery lots in perfect order, trimming the grass and keeping the paths clean, but beautifies the lots with flowers and shrubs.

Dr. Emma Sutro Merritt of San Francisco is probably the only woman holding the office of president of a railroad company. Dr. Merritt, besides being an able business woman, has been a practicing physician for 17 years. She has also acted as guardian for her father. At his death the bulk of the stock in the Sutro Railroad company was bequeathed to her, and her election as president of the company came as a matter of course.

The principal of the Abbott academy, Andover, Mass., is Miss Emily Means. She is a graduate of that institution, and was connected with the faculty as teacher from 1878 to 1892. She is accomplished in modern languages, and is well read in mental and moral science.

If you live in Indiana, you may be interested in knowing that the supreme court of that state has decided that a married woman can lease her land for the purpose of prospecting for oil so as to give the lessee the exclusive right to drill wells for that purpose without obtaining her husband's signature to the lease. The court says that such lease grants only temporary use of the land, but intimates that the oil company's right to hold the land for the purpose of taking out oil might be doubtful.

The Rev. J. M. Bull, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church of Worthington, Minn., went visiting recently and could not return in time to preach the usual sermon. His wife thereupon supplied the pulpit to the satisfaction of the entire congregation.

Miss Georgia L. Chamberlain of Chicago is secretary of the American Institute of Sacred Literature, an organization which provides facilities for the study of the Bible at home.

SHE'LL RULE IN INDIA.

Chicago Girl Whose Husband Has Been Made a Vice Regent.

The appointment of the Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon, parliamentary secretary of the British foreign office, as governor general of India is of interest to American women from the fact that his wife is an American. It is indirectly a delicate compliment to our country, for as wife of the viceroy of India our countrywoman will occupy a position, at least in that country, second only to that of the queen. The accord that has been established between the British people and our nation since the trouble with Spain began will certainly be increased because of Mr. Curzon's appointment to the high office mentioned.

Mr. Curzon's wife was Miss Mary Leiter of Chicago, a daughter of Mr. L. Z. Leiter, a millionaire of that city, and a sister of Mr. Joseph Leiter, whose stupendous speculations in wheat so recently startled the world. Mr. Curzon and Miss Leiter were married in Washington in 1895, and the union was the social diplomatic event of the season.

Mrs. Curzon's marriage portion was estimated at about \$3,000,000, and as she has always been her father's favor-



MRS. GEORGE N. CURZON.

ite child she may reasonably expect to receive much more some day. A month after her marriage she was presented to the queen at Buckingham palace and was greatly admired for her beauty and amiable qualities.

Ever since taking up her residence in England Mrs. Curzon has been popular and has contributed in no small degree to increased prestige of her talented and distinguished husband.

The Hon. Mr. Curzon was born in 1859 and is the eldest son of Baron Scarsdale, rector of Kedleston. He was educated at Eton, and while there was scarcely more noted for his ability as a student than for his haughty bearing and the faultless style of his dress. The lapse of time has modified him so far as his carriage and manner are concerned, but he still is particular as before about dress. He won nearly all the honors in the open competitions at Eton, and before he left it for Oxford he had achieved a reputation as a satirist and orator. These gifts followed him to the great university, and although he was not first among the students of his college he won honors enough to satisfy any ordinary ambition.

Mr. Curzon is very thoroughly equipped for performing the duties of the viceroyship. He has traveled extensively through India and made a special study of its economic, social and political condition. He has also seen much of Africa, and there are but few corners of Europe that have not been explored by him.

Mr. Curzon was undersecretary of state for India in 1891-2, and became parliamentary secretary of foreign office in the ministry of the Marquis of Salisbury soon after the latter assumed the leadership of the government.

Mr. Curzon has a large number of influential friends of both sexes. He has more than sufficient self confidence to make his undoubtedly great talents available, and is noted not less for his candor and fearlessness of speech than for his ability as a debater.

Mrs. Curzon will be called upon to preside over a viceregal court scarcely less magnificent than that of Queen Victoria. In some respects it even transcends the latter in state and ceremony, and necessarily so, for the oriental mind accepts such as evidences of real power.

The governor general of India rules over 300,000,000 people. While his income is small, his allowances and perquisites are on a princely scale. As the highest official authority in the country, the power of the viceroy of India is well nigh absolute, subject, of course, to the India office in London. He and his council are invested with power to make laws for the government of the vast empire, and all throughout India are subject to their rulings.

Mr. Curzon succeeds the Right Hon. Victor Alexander Bruce, earl of Elgin and Kincardine. He succeeded the Marquis of Lansdowne in 1893.

While foreign marriages contracted by American women of wealth have usually but little to recommend them, an exception should be made so far as the British are concerned. With many characteristics in common, unions between them and our women generally turn out well. When the husband is a member of the peerage, which in the British islands means much more than it does on the continent, it certainly has the effect of increasing the feeling of sympathy that binds two nations having a great deal in common besides their language. This increased sympathetic regard, in evidence for some length of time, has been much increased by the evident leaning of the British people toward us in our war with Spain.

ANNETTE CRAWFORD.

A Successful Woman Pastor.

The pastor of one of the largest and best churches in Nebraska is Rev. Lucy E. Dodge. Her church, the Free Baptist of Long Branch, has a good building and parsonage in good repair and free from debt. She has been pastor there for five years.

FASHIONS FOR WOMEN.

Captivating Capes and Jackets Decreed For the Coming Winter.

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Aug. 29.—The new cape is quite a departure in shape from any that we have seen for several years. They have been full as they could be, even to falling in heavy rippling folds, but now they are narrow and long and rounded up in front, so that it would be impossible to fasten them lower than at the bust line. They all have the new "serpentine flounce." That means a ruffle cut in half moon shape on the upper edge, so that when it is sewed smoothly to the bottom of the cape it ripples along the lower edge into a graceful flounce. Just now the most of these capes are of velour, moire or benigaline, though there are some of the thinner qualities of broadcloth. They fit the shoulders, and the collar is as high as any of those ever seen before, and stiffly wired or stitched; but the object of all the rest is to fall in long, soft, waving lines. They are lined with soft silk. The three-quarter length cape will be the most fashionable and will be worn by every one. There are two distinct styles of these, one having the shoulders plain and shaped; the other has from two to three of the serpentine ruffles around the neck and shoulders. Three-quarter fitted, half fitted and sack coats all have the three coachman's capes on the shoulders. This is to be a great style among the young up to date women. They are made in tailor fashion and the little capes lined with some contrasting silk. They are chic surely if nothing else, but they will be genuinely comfortable, too, something that no cape can be in very cold weather.

There is a sort of family resemblance between these new capes and the dainty tea jackets. I think it consists in the rounded corners. Anyhow it is pretty. A lovely tea jacket of pervenche blue taffeta had a frill of lace around it



NEWEST CAPE AND TEA JACKET.

which extended up the front in a jabot frill. A collar was made of lace and a band of dark blue velvet cut bias. The stock was of the same, with high fans of wired lace. The sleeves were of the shape we call bishop and ended with a frill of lace.

There are thousands of tea gowns and jackets now being prepared. I find that all are most lavishly decorated with lace and ribbons. The millinery for the coming season does not call for much ribbon, but an offset the amount of ribbon to be used as trimmings on gowns for ordinary home wear as well as for handsome tea gowns and evening attire surpasses belief. Some evening dresses are literally entirely made of ribbon. Gauze ribbon in three and four inch widths are the preferred kinds. These have lines of colored embroidery or brocade flowers down the center, and the ribbon is cut in skirt length and sewn together with a row of narrow lace insertion between. In one case the ribbon was left unsewn for ten inches at the bottom, and each end was scalloped with floss silk. There was a tucked taffeta flounce on the underskirt, and these ends of ribbon floated over them with excellent effect. Such a dress must cost a small fortune. Baby waists with fancy belts or sashes belong with these ribbon frocks. A tulie or lace guimpe may be worn with them if a very young girl is to wear such a gown.

Marquette is but twelve hours ride from Chicago, the best connections being made with Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad fast train, known as the New Orleans & Florida Special, which reaches Chicago at 8:30 p. m., connecting train on C. & St. Paul railway, leaves Chicago at 10:15 p. m., and on C. & N. W. railway at 10:30 p. m., reaching Marquette 10:30 following morning. For detailed information, address C. L. Stone, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Chicago, Ill.

Distressing Stomach Disease

Permanently cured by the masterly powers of South American Nervine Tonic. Invalids need suffer no longer, because this great remedy can cure them all. It is a cure for the whole world of stomach weakness and indigestion. The cure begins with the first dose. The relief it brings is marvelous and surprising. It makes no failure; never disappoints. No matter how long you have suffered, your cure is certain under the use of this great health giving force. Pleasant and always safe. Sold by all druggists, in Terre Haute, Ind.

Give the Children a Drink

called Grain-O. It is a delicious, appetizing, nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all who have used it because when properly prepared it tastes like the finest coffee but is free from all its injurious properties. Grain-O aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant but a health builder, and children, as well as adults, can drink it with great benefit. Costs about $\frac{1}{4}$ as much as coffee. 15 and 25c.

Write W. C. Rinearson, G. P. A., Queen & Crescent Route, Cincinnati, O., for free books and maps, \$5.00 Cincinnati to Chattanooga Excursion, Sept. 8-10.

Figaro jackets are reappearing on some of the most striking of the costumes. A black cloth suit has a figaro sewn to the pointed basque made of scarlet cloth. This in turn is latticed or vermicelli braided with black soutache. Some of the figaros are real and can be slipped on and off, but the most are postiche and sewn fast. Frogs of metal or of black silk edge them around.

Persian palm leaf patterns are making their appearance again on some of the silks, ribbons and printed woolens. Also I saw a cape that looked as though made of a real India shawl, with a serpentine ruffle of the same with another of mordore bias velvet above it. It was exceedingly rich and was lined with amber satin.

For handsome reception and evening dresses there is a new lace—like black grenadine, which when made up over a bright colored lining is very elegant. Ribbons are used to trim these.

Frogs and loops and all sorts of military trimmings on out of door garments will prevail all this winter. The manufacturers appear to have just waked up to the demand. Though the war is over there is still enough of the military spirit in the air to last till spring.

OLIVE HARPER.

A Historic Wreck.

"In the harbor of Santiago de Cuba," says Maturin M. Ballou in *Due South*, "a sunken wreck is pointed out, partially visible at low tide, not far from the shore. Only the ribs and stanchions are still held together by the stout keel timbers and lower sheathing. This wreck has lain here unheeded for years, yet what a story these old timbers might tell had they only a tongue with which to give voice to their experience—literally the experience of ages."

Reference is made to the remains of the old St. Paul, one of the ships of the great Spanish armada that Philip II sent to England in 1588, being one of the very few of that famous flotilla that escaped destruction at the time. What a historical memento is the old wreck! After a checkered career, in which this ancient craft had breached the waves of innumerable seas and withstood the storms of nearly three centuries, she was burned to the water's edge here in the harbor of Santiago a few years since and sunk, where her remains now lie, covered with slime and barnacles—a striking emblem of the nation whose flag she once proudly bore.—*New York Tribune*.

Lorenzo J. Conner, 104 Green St., Albany, N. Y., says: "I have used Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup and find it very beneficial, and can safely recommend it as a good remedy for coughs."

Saved With Cables.

In the French quarries of St. Triphon stone is sawed with steel wire cables moistened with wet sand and passing in an endless rope over a series of pulleys. The wire, which runs from 1,000 to 1,200 feet per minute, is charged as it enters the cut with jet of water and silicious sand, which forms the cutting material. A running cable of 500 feet can make a cut 100 feet long.

Errand Running.

A boy of 15 thinks he is too old to run errands, but after he is 25 and married he begins again.—*Atchison (Kan.) Globe*.

Pain in the region of the liver and kidneys can be broken up almost immediately by using Dr. Bull's Pills, the best prescription for liver and kidney troubles. At all dealers, 10 and 25 cents.

Dover, N. H., Oct. 31, 1898.

MESSRS. ELY BROS.—The Balm reached me safely and in so short a time the effect is surprising. My son says the first application gave decided relief. I have a shelf filled with "Cataract Cures." Tomorrow the stove shall receive them and Ely's Cream Balm will reign supreme. Respectfully, MRS. FRANKLIN FREEMAN.