

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

A Story of Court Etiquette.

Lady Florence Dixie writes to the Dublin Freeman's Journal: "In the Irishman of, I think, two or three weeks back, there appeared under the head of 'Query' the following question: 'To put Lady Florence Dixie's courage and frankness to the proof, we shall ask her a question, and we shall expect a plain and straightforward answer. Was she—Lady Florence Dixie—ever expelled from the court of Queen Victoria? And if she ever was expelled from that court, will she be frank enough to tell us what was the cause?' The occurrence which was some years ago the subject of remark in London 'society' papers was in each and all related in the form of a joke, and may be truthfully and simply explained as follows: During one of my many expeditions to foreign parts I had occasion, for convenience sake, to cut my hair short, and on my return to England was presented at court on the occasion of my marriage. I was very young then, and though I had been to court before I was not aware that the etiquette of same was so stringent that a head uncrowned by feathers was not the right thing. I, in consequence, did not wear them. The result was that they were cut near day from the lord chamberlain, reminding me that it was not etiquette to attend her majesty's drawing-room without feathers and lace on the head, and begging the next time I attended a drawing-room to kindly observe this rule. To this communication I at once replied, expressing my regret at having unintentionally infringed the etiquette of court rules, and there the matter dropped. Later on an order came out in the Court Journal regulating the number of feathers and the length of veil which court rules for the future enforced on those who were desirous of attending drawing-rooms. The subject for a short time gave the society journals good food for chaff and harmless jokes, in which I, like many others, heartily joined. It not, however, being the peculiar ambition of my life to attend drawing-rooms at court, nor to wear false hair in order that I may be enabled to don feathers and a veil, I have simply preferred to keep my hair short and to forego that 'immense pleasure' of attending any more drawing-rooms."

Fashion Notes.

Dolmans remain in vogue. Feather bands will be much worn. Beaded bonnets are much in vogue. Both long and short cloaks will be worn. Mousquetaire gloves take precedence of all others. Velvet is the popular dress of the English woman. Small Talma mantles are worn at present in Paris. In millinery flowers are almost superseded by leaves. Chenille marabout ruches and fringes trim many handsome wraps and dresses. Leather bonnets trimmed with leather lace are the latest freak of Parisian fancy. Turbans, to be fashionably worn, must not conceal the bangs or waves on the forehead. Leading New York dressmakers do not make up suits or costumes to be worn over hoops or bustles. The handsomest hats are made of velvet, and are trimmed with from two to twenty-two ostrich plumes. Large collars of embroidery, or heavy lace, with cuffs to match, form a part of every dressy suit for little girls or boys. Long plain cloth pelisses, finished with collars and cuffs of plush, are the first fall wraps for every-day and business purposes. Large long buckles in colored and iridescent metals are used to fasten the looped draperies of silk and fine woolen dresses. Drowned on His Wedding Day. At Baltimore August Westfield, a young man, a clerk in a mercantile house, was to have been married to Miss Julia Sewell. The marriage license had been procured, a minister engaged, and the guests bidden to a bridal banquet. On the morning of the bridal day, as the groom elect, with a friend, was crossing the Broadway ferry to Locust Point, he complained of having a chill. Westfield crossed to the opposite side of the steamer and perched himself on the railing in position to allow the sun's rays to fall on him. Suddenly, when the steamer was in mid-harbor, he lost his balance and fell overboard. He rose once, and was heard to cry "Julia," and then he disappeared. The body was recovered, and by some mistake sent to the house of his bride elect, who gained her first information of the tragedy by seeing the dead body of her betrothed. When old Captain Marlinspike heard that his friend the schoolmaster was in the habit of punishing the unruly lads by seating them with the girls, he shook his head as he remarked: "A misplaced boy is very dangerous, my friend."—Boston Transcript.

Considerate. Probably the politest and most considerate man who ever lived was General Bradshaw, of Arkansas. Some time ago, boarding a train, he perceived his son, whom he had not seen for twenty years, occupying a seat, reading. The old gentleman sat down immediately behind the young man. After the train had gone about thirty miles, the young man laid aside his newspaper, and discovered his father, seized the old man with affectionate warmth. "Why didn't you let me know that you was on the train, father?" "Because," replied the old gentleman, "I saw that you were reading and I did not wish to disturb—" "That would have made no difference." "And besides," continued the father, "I thought that you might want to borrow a few dollars.—Arkansas Traveler.

The World's Stock of Gold. The Paris Bourse estimates the total stock of gold in the world in use as coin or as banking reserve in one shape or other at about £580,000,000, of which total England has £126,000,000, France £136,000,000, Germany £80,000,000, and the United States £92,000,000. Other nations come in for shares varying from £800,000 in the case of Holland, to £30,400,000 in Spain's.

There are nine ambulances constituting New York's ambulance system. Each one is accompanied by a driver and surgeon, and by law is given the right of way throughout the city. A clanging gong tells you that one of these judiciously-arranged vehicles is swiftly hurrying to the scene of an accident. They are summoned from the station-houses. In the event of a serious calamity the call for ambulances is sent out without waiting to learn if any persons are injured.

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John Hodge Secretary.

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