

EDITOR'S TABLE.

EDITORIAL CHIT-CHAT.

ARCHERY FOR LADIES.—Croquet and lawn-tennis still continue, we are glad to say, more or less popular. We say "glad to say," because any amusement, that is carried on in the open air, and that requires exercise of the body, is to be encouraged. Health and beauty—and beauty of the truest type—are the results of such amusements, at least, when indulged in with moderation.

But there is one recreation, especially fitted for ladies, which is to be recommended even more than lawn-tennis or croquet; for while it is equally conducive to health, it is very much more graceful. We allude to *archery*. Shooting with the bow, as we are all aware, was universal, in England, before the discovery of fire-arms. Every citizen was trained, from youth, to it; the bow became, as a weapon, the terror of other nations; Agincourt, Crecy, and many another battle-field, was won, not by mailed knights, but by the sturdy yeomanry of England, with their "flights of arrows." What could be done with the bow, in skilful hands, is told in many an ancient ballad. Sir Walter Scott, in his wonderful romance of "Ivanhoe," has made the bow immortal.

We are pleased to note, therefore, that archery clubs for ladies are springing up, in a good many places. We hope that they will extend everywhere. Ladies, in the "olden time," practiced archery quite generally. Margaret, the daughter of Henry VII. shot a buck in Alnwick Park, with a bow; and Queen Elizabeth, during a visit to Lord Montacute, killed three or four deer. Roger Ascham, the tutor of Lady Jane Grey, wrote a treatise on archery, and maintained that it was the most graceful of all amusements for ladies. The bow, he said, should be raised gradually by the left hand, at the same time that the string is raised by the right, and when the arrow is drawn about two-thirds of its length, the neck of it should be brought close to the right ear, and the aim taken. A guard of buckskin, or other stiff material, should be worn on the left arm, to prevent any folds which might impede the bow-string when loosed from the hand.

To teach archery, by an article like this, is, however, impossible; it is only practice that will bring perfection. We may say, nevertheless, that, in choosing your bow, get one that you can easily pull at *first*, and change it for a stronger one as you become more expert. Never shoot with another person's bow, as the strength of all differ, and you might have an accident with it, which would be as annoying to you as to the owner. Be careful, also, to keep the bow-string from untwisting or getting ravelled, and do not shoot alone, because you will probably shoot carelessly. To join an archery club adds to the excitement of the pursuit, and, therefore, try and establish one, if there is none in your neighborhood. Prizes are generally given by archery clubs, as they stimulate to exertion: one for the arrow first in or near goal, and the second for the number of shots on the target. Archery implements of all kinds, we may add, can be purchased in almost any considerable city.

IT COSTS NO MORE to have a stylish dress than one that is not stylish. Consult the patterns in "Peterson," and you will have the latest designs by Worth, Pingat, etc., instead of the outlandish costumes of second-rate Philadelphia and New York dress-makers, which you see in other lady's magazines.

MRS. BURNETT'S NEW NOVELET.—This copy-righted novelet is, as our readers have already discovered, a charming love story, fit to rank with "Theo," "Pretty Polly Pemberton," "Kathleen," and others which have appeared in these pages. Nobody writes a love story, we may say, as well as Mrs. Burnett. Stories of this kind are too often mawkishly sentimental, or improbable in incident, or both; but this author knows how to appeal to the heart, and to describe the master-passion, love, and yet be natural through it all. Some of her heroines, notably Kathleen and Theo, are among the loveliest in fiction. Mrs. Burnett can depict tragedy, too, as well. Her "Ebebe," "The Tide on the Moaning Bar," "Jarl's Daughter," etc., etc., published in this magazine, are examples. Very few writers unite two such opposite qualities. It was in this magazine that Mrs. Burnett, then Miss Frances Hodgson, made her first appearance. We predict for her a constantly increasing fame. In "Miss Defarge," there is some unusually delicate character drawing, as our readers will discover, before they have finished its perusal.

HOW TO DRESS WITH TASTE.—Very few persons possess an innate perception of the beautiful, while all may dress in taste by the observance of certain laws of Nature. Thus, sky-blue is becoming to fair persons because it contrasts agreeably with the orange in their complexion. Light green is also becoming, particularly to fair complexions utterly devoid of color, because it adds the rose tint altogether wanting. Red and yellow are becoming to dark, fresh colored complexions, the yellow by contrast, the red by harmony. Violet, dark green, and pink are more limited in their adaptability, and require to be brought into juxtaposition with the complexion before a decision can be arrived at, as there may be a tone in the complexion that will neither harmonize nor contrast favorably. Then, again, there are gradations in these—some that are not becoming, if placed in direct contrast with the skin, would, with a line of white or black intervening, have a most excellent effect.

BEAUTIFUL HOMES.—Let your home, large or small, be kept for the benefit of those who live in it. Warmth and light are better than fine furniture, and good beds are better than fine bedsteads. If there is plenty of money, one may have all these good and comfortable things with all possible beautiful surroundings. If not, a woman with taste, industry, and ingenuity, and with her heart in the matter, can make almost any place cheery. The more tasteful, the more beautiful your home can be made, the better always for those around you and for the friends dear to them and you—not for show, not for display; these degrade the mind and the habits.

SUBSCRIBERS OFTEN ASK QUESTIONS, and desire answers in the magazine. We would prefer, in all cases, that the writers should send their address, for, unless the question is of general interest, we would rather reply by letter. Our space, otherwise, is too valuable.

"AHEAD OF ALL."—The Northern (O.) Journal say, "Peterson is received, and, as usual, is *ahead of all others*; it is bright, entertaining, and replete with the latest fashion intelligence." We have hundreds of similar notices from newspapers all over the country.