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ALWAYS A CHARMER.

The South Carolina Widow's Place in History.

DANGEROUS IN 1773.

Governor Johnson Was Petitioned by the Maiden Ladies of That Time to Deny Them a Second Helping

Every age thinks its joys and sorrows unique, but they're not. Each day and time has "troubles of its own," but they are never all its own; other times and other peoples have traveled the same road.

As a case in point, I gave, herewith, a verbatim copy of an old document which goes to show that "vidders" were as troublesome a hundred years ago as they were in the time of Mr. Weller or as they are today.

A very old scrap book, compiled by Mrs. Ann E. Snyder of Nashville, has been published in book form.

From it I quote as follows:

"THE MAIDS AND WIDOWS."

The following petition, signed by sixteen maids of Charleston, S. C., was presented to the governor of that province in March, 1773—"the day of the feast."

"To His Excellency, Governor Johnson: The humble petition of all the maids whose names are underwritten:

"Whereas, we the humble petitioners, at present, in a very melancholy disposition of mind, considering how all the bachelors are blindly captivated by widows, and our more youthful charms thereby neglected; the consequence of this our request is, that your excellency will, for the future order that no widow will presume to marry any young man till the maids are provided for; or else to pay each of them a fine for satisfaction, for invading our liberties, and likewise a fine to be paid on all such bachelors as shall be married to widows.

"The great disadvantage it is to us maids is, that the widows, by their forward carriages, do snap up the young men, and have the vanity to

thing else: - street car companies and the mad marauding of the board of health. We might now try him upon runaway horses and the encroachments of widows. If there be any legal Balm in Gilead Judge Lumpkin has it about him either at Durand's or elsewhere.

Young ladies, take notice. Meantime, the plaint of the eighteenth century young ladies recalls Kipling's little poem, "My Rival."

"I go to concert, party, ball—
What profit is in these?
I sit alone against the wall
And strive to look at ease.
The incense that is mine by right
They burn before her shrine;
And that's because I'm seventeen
And she is forty-nine."

"I cannot check my girlish blush,
My color comes and goes;
I redder to my finger tips
And sometimes to my nose,
But she is white where white should be
And red where red should shine.
The blush that flies at seventeen
Is fixed at forty-nine."

"I wish I had her constant cheek,
I wish that I could sing
All sorts of funny little songs,
Not quite the proper thing.
I'm very gauche and very shy,
Her jokes aren't in my line;
And most of all, I'm seventeen
While she is forty-nine."

"But even she must older grow
And end her dancing days,
She can't go on forever so
At concerts, balls and plays.
One ray of priceless hope I see
Before my footsteps shine;
Just think, that she'll be Eighty-one
When I am forty-nine."
—Atlanta Journal.

SPRING HATS, LADIES!

New Shapes and Styles That Will Compete With Nature in the Glories of the Season.

Spring models in hats do not differ strikingly from the late winter styles, says a fashion authority, but there is a hint of wider brims with the warm weather. All the new sapes have large crowns, so that they sit well over the head, and the trimming is low and flat, except in flowers and plumes. These stand erect as usual.

One of the new fancies is to cover straw braid with tulle and sew the sides of the braid together so that the edges are shown in the finished shape. Another idea is to use straw spangles and satin braid on a net foundation. Some inquiries are made

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a fine to be paid on all such bachelors as shall be married to widows.

"The great disadvantage it is to us maids is, that the widows, by their forward carriages, do snap up the young men, and have the vanity to think their merits beyond ours, which is a great imposition upon us who ought to have the preference. This is humbly recommended to your excellency's consideration and hope you will prevent any further insults.

"And, we, poor maids, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

"P. S.—I, being the oldest maid, and therefore most concerned do think it proper to be the messenger to your excellency in behalf of my fellow-subscribers."

No names are signed in the copy to this most lucid presentation of wrongs and maltreatment nor is there any record, much to our regret, of his excellency's response to the petition.

Was he so moved upon, thereby, as to issue the desired manifest estopping the greediness of widows who would grab for a second helping before all had been once served?

Did he or did he not? And if he did how did he order work?

Were the widows reduced to submissive decorum and induced to wait their turn or did they laugh as love does at lock-smith and find some way to evade its stern behest? None of these things can we know, but some interesting deductions can be drawn from the curious old petition.

In the first place, as we have said above, it shows us that through all the ages one continuous trouble runs and that the eighteenth century debutante could duplicate the sarrows of today.

Secondly, we see there were "new women" in those days, women who knew their rights and asked for them and were mightily provoked when they were infringed upon.

And thirdly, comes the question, would come such procedure be practicable or possible today? and if so, what form should it take?

I don't believe we need follow the example of the maids of 1773 and turn to the chief executive if the state for relief. Governor Candler would not estop the widows!

I doubt if he could if he would, and I doubt if he would if he could.

The municipality offers no more hopeful prospect to maids seeking protection. The council might be won over to propose, a measure in their behalf but I feel sure Mayor Mims would veto it.

No help there; I see but one possible chance for the debutantes and I will throw the suggestion of it out in their behalf. Invoke the majesty of the law by getting Judge Lumpkin to grant an injunction.

If anybody can stop the widows he can. He has stopped nearly every-

by a large, soft flower. A pretty toque is made of white lisse in concentric folds, trimmed with pale blue ribbon draped loosely around the brim with pale pink roses on brim and crown.

Roses promise to be extremely popular and will be generally of the large, full blown variety, with crimped petals. They are set closely together without foliage in trimming the brims of fancy hats. Deep pink of saffron roses are most liked for brims, of bonbon tints are preferred for inside trimming.

ROSE COVERED BRIMS.

Although roses are the favorite flower for trimming, other blossoms are used. Violets, hyacinths, cowslips and even foliage are seen. Gold still holds its popularity, but is not made conspicuous. White and cream tulle are employed to veil gold net, which thus is toned down to delicacy. Cluny and Luxeull lace sometimes have the design outlined with gold-thread and gold lace is used to a moderate extent in trimming, but piece silk is preferred for drapery in millinery.

Printed panne velvets, some in per-sian designs, are shown in millinery

textiles, and Pekin flambeau, which is said to be merely a revival of what was known as "hair stripped silks" twenty years ago, is to be seen. A novelty is net applique with figures cut from satin and velvet panne, outlined with gold cord.

Some handsome Paris hats have a large rosette of lace on the middle of the crown, drooping around. The center is caught under an ornament. Brim draperies of lace and lace ties are seen also, and it seems probable that the coming season will employ lace largely.

A new style of ornament has appeared for hats, in the form of a half-inch wide strip of gold studded with cut steel. Old Egyptian designs, too, are popular, and one may expect to see sphinxes, eagles, ibises and scarabei on most modern hats. Buckles, brooches, slides and every imaginable shape of ornament will be used lavishly and one may choose silver or gilt as one pleases.

St. Louis is after the trade of the southwest, and as a means of securing it a delegation of merchants has gone into that section to cultivate closer "social and business relations."

It is officially reported at Yokohama that 400 fishermen are missing. It is believed that they perished in the heavy storm which raged on January 10 off the west coast of Japan.

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