

HOW TO DRESS.

What Is Being Worn by the Followers of Dame Fashion's Whims.

TOILET GOSSIP ABOUT STYLES.

Fancies in Outdoor and Indoor Costumes, Trimmings, Hats, Bonnets, Gloves, Jewelry, Etc.

My Lady's Newest Gown.

The plain velvets are used in the combination suits. Some striking effects are made with olive, golden brown, and deep yellow. A plaid of this sort arranged in a series of falls, which constitute a panel, presents what an artist would call a "striking tone system" when made up with a brown of a rich and harmonious shade.

Soft English tweeds seem to be the proper thing for spring cloaks and jackets. Loose fronts and loose, full sleeves gathered in a large band at the wrist are a distinguishing feature of these cloaks. These are made of plaids, with a soft fawn or drab background and stripes of red, blue, white, black, or tan delicately interwoven.

The tailor-made jackets of mahogany brown or black cloth are rounded at the corners, and bear visible stitching. The charm of these jackets, it is needless to say, depends on the person who wears them. If the form of their owner is desirable than they also.

The shoulder capes, which are so much worn, seem hardly to belong to America. There is a luxuriant splendor about them that suggests the glittering garments of Spain and the embroidery of Turkey. Many of them are made of plush, with pointed radiations of intricate embroidery in beads, silk, and bullion reaching out from the neck.

The part that covers the arm is often made of a network of beads, sometimes iridescent or opalescent, and sometimes the exact color of the garment.

Those made of cut steel beads and woven on the ground of silver-gray satin or plush are especially becoming to elderly ladies with gray hair. Bonnets are to be obtained which exactly correspond, and these, with their bright shimmers of steel and the tuft of soft gray plumes make the most appropriate covering in the world for the venerable gray beauty of an old lady's head. But, alas! the vast majority of dear old motherly faces will be forever wreathed in hideous black crepe! Why must they forever carry about that obstinate suggestion of woe? As if old age were not pathetic enough in itself without these barbaric trappings and weeds!

"Hung to the heavens in black," cried Henry VI, and he suggested nothing more sacrilegious nor absurd than a woman does when she shrouds herself in funeral garments. But as long as this hideousness is considered one of the proprieties there will be no use in talking about it, for though a woman may forget her husband, neglect her religion, and abjure her country, she will not transgress the laws of conventionalism in small things. And yet they say women are haphazard! Why they are the most systematic creatures in the world, and the most united. There is just one thing, however, that they are not quite united in, and that is the wearing of red gloves. They have appeared in all the glove-shops, but they are being received with hesitation. A pretty costume appeared on the boulevard the other morning, which was supplemented by these noticeable novelties. The suit was of fawn-colored cloth, tailor-made; the hat a trim affair with ribbons in subdued checks of fawn and bronze, and the gloves were red—bright red, and at the button-hole was a single rose which kept them company.

Pointed ornaments of black braid—or at least dark braid—are being used in a peculiar way on the spring dresses. The base of the long narrow triangles are put on the edge of the drapery, at the side, so that the points run over to the middle of the front of the skirt. These show to great advantage on the light spring fabrics.

One curious decoration is a deep band of polka-dotted velvet which is put about the bottom of the skirt, or on the edge of the overskirt. The polka-dots are in rows, largest at the bottom and graduating to very small dots, and each row is of different color. The first, for instance, may be deep moss-green, the second an olive, the third a maroon, the fourth a grey-blue, and the last an ecru.

The gown on which these are worn must be subdued in color, though indeed the velvet itself is much more modest than might be inferred from the description. Skirts of plush are worn with two broad rainbow stripes running around them. These stripes may not bear every tint of the rainbow, but they have so many of them that what are left out are hardly worth mention. The ground work is a deep hunter's green or a dusky sort of blue with black shadows in it. The overdress must be made of cloth with cuffs and collar of the plush.

The embroidered dress patterns of the French wash goods are growing more and more inexpensive every year, and the shades in which they appear are more delicate. Embroideries threaten to be alarmingly popular. It's very easy to overdo a purely ornamental thing. When one stands in the midst of a field of lilacs one no longer prizes them, and when grey little girls that

washes the dish-water off her arm and curlis her bangs by the back bed-room gas comes out in a dress embroidered from her to gathers, then why most naturally, my lady, bowing along in her carriage, will religiously eschew embroidery, no matter how "dainty-sew" it may be.

The diaphanous materials for summer seem to be more wonderful than ever before. Of course the colors must have names, but it seems almost coarse to stick a name onto such airy, changeable tints that suggest clouds and vapors more than they do fabrics.

These must be made into flowing dresses, with a great quantity of material in them or they will fail of their best effect.

The slimy Oriental cloths, with their deep tints—warrented to wash—will doubtless be very fashionable for house dresses, and they are well calculated for comfortable frocks to garden, shop, or loaf in.

Heliotrope appears in everything—positively in everything. In all fabrics, thick or thin, woolen or cotton, in all garments from hats to stockings; and though it has but one name, it has many shades. Lilac, lavender, and mauve are all included in the same sweeping name, and all of the tints harmoniously mingle in the watered and striped silks which promise to be so much worn at midsummer hops and June weddings.

The happy woman with a pale face and a slender figure seems never to have been so well looked after. All of those strange Indian fabrics and indescribable half-colors, these exquisite purples, tender blues, and elusive blues seem so well calculated for her use.

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REMINISCENCES OF PUBLIC MEN.

BY BEN: PERLEY POORE.

The Supreme Court, on the last day of 1866, presented to the Radicals in accepted New Year's present in the shape of a decision on the legality of military commissions. The case was that of Lamont P. Milligan, who had been sentenced to death, and on whose appeal for setting aside his trial there had been a division of opinion between the judges of the Circuit Court of the United States for the district of Indiana. The Supreme Court was unanimous in deciding that no authority existed in the State of Indiana for the trial of Milligan by a military commission, and that he was entitled to the discharge prayed for in his petition, his case coming within the strict letter of the law of Congress, passed in 1863, authorizing the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus. On the question whether Congress had a right to legalize military commissions in States where the authority and action of the established courts was unimpeded by the trial of civilians, there was a disagreement. Five of the judges held the affirmative, and four the negative. This decision made the leading Radicals very angry, and Thad Stevens undertook to prepare a bill to remodel the court. Public opinion, generally, rejoiced at the suspension of unjust and infamous tribunals "organized to convict."

Francis P. Blair, the father of Montgomery and Gen. Frank Blair, was a prominent personage at Washington during the war. He had been the chosen editorial champion of Gen. Jackson, and it was through his exertions that Gen. Fremont had been nominated as the first Republican candidate for President. He retained his faculties after he had advanced far in life, but his person withered until he almost became an animated skeleton. He continued to wear a hat of the low-crowned, broad-brimmed pattern of his youth, and sustained himself by a long staff. In the summer he resided on his estate near Washington, known as Silver Springs, and used to take daily rides on horseback, accompanied by his wife, who was also well advanced in years. He was naturally a political schemer and his endeavours to open peaceful negotiations between the Confederate Government and that of the United States gave Mr. Lincoln considerable annoyance. It is greatly to be regretted that Mr. Blair could not have written his personal reminiscences from the administration of James Monroe to that of Andrew Johnson, inclusive, for he was, during that time, behind the political scenes, often acting as prompter to the most distinguished performers, and no man was so well acquainted with the secret history of the Democratic party as founded by Andrew Jackson and destroyed by James Buchanan. He was a true friend, devoted father and a Christian gentleman.

Henry Wilson was a constant advocate of temperance. His father, Mr. Colibash, had so disgraced himself by drunkenness that the son had his name changed to Henry Wilson, and was, throughout his life, a consistent opponent of intemperance. On one occasion he presided over the annual meeting of the Congressional Temperance Society, at which Senator Yates of Mississippi made one of his wonderful speeches, exhibiting his magnetic power over his audience. During three-quarters of an hour, shouts of laughter and stifled sobs followed from his auditors in continuous succession. He mildly said of himself: "My sprees were not frequent, but they were long and they were loud." He had, however, promised "Kate and the children" that he would drink no more, and he went on to say: "I have been a temperate man for fifteen days, and I am a gayer boy to-night than I have been for seventeen years. I think I am the gayest man in the Senate except the able, indomitable, and gallant old cavalier of Kentucky, Garrett Davis; I except you also, Mr. Chairman. Temperance gloomy? not a bit of it, Mr. President. My pledge shall be a perpetual charm, a thing of beauty, which is a joy forever. Not a cloud of gloom, but an ever-present rainbow of promise, hope, and beauty." He then proceeded to give a personal description of his wife, who was, he said, small, weighing only about one hundred pounds, with black hair and flashing black eyes, and he declared that her form was "fairer than Greek chisel over work from Greek marble." He then read a letter from her which was evidently not written for the public eye. Unfortunately his good resolutions were soon broken, and he relapsed into his former dissipated habits.

Turbans remain in favor for city streets and for traveling hats. A new trimming for those of straw has bands of chip or of the braided straw made into loops like ribbon and placed amid the ribbon loops. Plaid and checked ribbons in the very narrow widths are added to hats and bonnets that are to be worn with plaid or checked suits. Thus Scotch plaid inch-wide ribbon forms roses and strings on brown or black straw bonnets, two sets of narrow strings being used. Shepherds' checked surah ribbons trim blue or white straw prettily with bunches of ragged-sailors and white stripes next the cord.

Tulle, gauze, and lace are used for very dainty bonnets, being shirred or frilled on a wire frame, and trimmed with a small wreath of very small flowers in which green leaves play an important part. The watered ribbons are also stylish trimmings for these small bonnets.

Children's hats have very large brims, much wider in front and on the sides than behind, and are made to look heavy with short plumes nodding from the top of the crown, or with many loops of ribbon placed on top of the crown and descending to the brim. The brim may be without lining or wire, but if worn by a child whose delicate coloring needs a dark background, the entire brim may be smoothly lined with velvet, or may have an underbrim or lining of colored straw. The sailor hats, with very wide brims, are sailor hats, with very wide brims, to be worn far back on the head. These are blue, brown, red, or white straw, and no matter of what color, are most often trimmed with navy blue ribbon that has white corded edges and fine white stripes next the cord.

Scorcher plaids are the furor in Paris. Large quantities of striped India silk are seen on silk counters.

Full bishop sleeves and leg-of-mutton sleeves are seen on many new gowns.

Black and white checked silks and black and white striped ones are seen again.

Fashions are going out of favor, and therefore are very cheap, but they make lovely underdresses for lace frocks.

The burnouse shawl drapery and the jabot folds are the favorite arrangement for the back of the skirts of spring dresses.

The coat sleeves is modified. It is made looser above the elbow, and opens at the inner, not the outer, seam at the wrist.

Bingham had the last word, and it was the verdict of those who heard the acrimonious debate that the parties came out about even. It was a curious fact connected with the pocket diary which Butler produced, found on the person of Wilkes Booth after his death, that it contained the photograph of a lady well-known in Washington society, for whom Booth entertained a high respect, if not affection. When Booth's remains were brought to Washington by his captors, Detective Baker showed this diary and its contents, confidentially, to four journalists, but they never made its contents known.

MODERN SURGERY.

While aseptic surgery has rendered the surgical operations well-nigh painless, other still more recent improvements have rendered them comparatively safe.

It is important that this should be understood, because dread of the surgeon's knife, once reasonable, causes many operations to be put off until the increase of the trouble and its effect on the general health may have rendered the system unable to rally from the shock. In all cases the earlier the operation, the safer it will be.

The changes in surgical methods within a single decade amount to a revolution. The surgeon himself looks back with horror on the surgery of ten years ago. Then the danger—and it was a great and ever-present one—was from suppuration and consequent blood-poisoning.

Suppuration was looked on as inevitable. But science now shows that if suppuration is possible, unless the germs of it are introduced from without, then corresponding strengthening of a part, no matter where applied, or for what purpose, should straightforwardly be condemned.

The "competition" and the "terrible strain" theories seem to me to have but little foundation. In my university life I saw nothing to confirm them. The work was pleasant and inspiring, and I am sure I can safely say that for the most part we enjoyed it. We did not trouble ourselves about the relative weight of our brains, and, as in the district school or the high school, so here, it mattered little whether it was Jane or John who stood best, and it was quite as likely to be John as Jane.

As I recall the animated faces, the healthy bloom and high spirits of the young women, I fail to find any ground for the assumption that their work was in any sense done at the expense of their vitality. On the contrary, I know that in many cases there was decided improvement in health from the beginning to the end of the course.

All this much-talked-of "physiological expenditure" is a myth. The intellect is quickened and strengthened by proper use, not at the expense of any other organ, but in and of itself.

It is with this as with the muscles; strength comes with use. The fault lies not in the training, but in the use of organs, and the neglect of others.

The balanced diet, the proper preparation of food, the avoidance of tobacco, tea, coffee, and other stimulants, and the avoidance of overwork, will have its local effects on the body, and the result will be a decided improvement in health.

Now it is known that various solutions destroy all such germs. The operating-room is therefore kept disinfected. So are the surgeons and attendants, especially the nurses, who attend to the patient's wants.

Instruments and sponges are taken,

at using directly from the carbolic solution. Plasters and bandages, and all ligatures for tying blood-vessels or sowing up wounds, are rendered aseptic.

The skin of the patient is scrubbed with soap and water, and the parts adjacent to the wound covered with disinfecting towels.

"Pus is a thing of the past," says the

Medical Record. "The wound is now dressed with no expectation that fever will arise, or that suppuration will occur, or that the dressings will require renewal. The patient eats and sleeps well from the first; and the surgeon removes the dressing only to find the wound united"—and this, too, though the largest wounds are fully sewed up, and without draining-tubes.

Seeing daily, as I do, young women in college in fair better health than young women in society, or living in pampered illnesses at home; seeing them healthier as seniors than they were as freshmen; knowing that my records tell me that they average a smaller number of excuses because of illness than do those of the men's college, I am able to compare data, and know from statistical evidence that woman college graduates enjoy a sum total of 20 per cent better health than the average woman, how can I conclude otherwise than that college work *per se* is not injurious to health, nor incompatible with the best good of the sex and the race?—Dr. Lucy M. Hall, in *Popular Science Monthly*.

Formerly, the simplest cases of compound fracture were treated with many misgivings; now the worst cases give no special trouble.

Formerly, the larger amputations were terribly painful; now amputations are painless.

Formerly, abscesses were now opened and dressed with carbolic acid, and the pus was removed with a sharp knife; now carbolic acid is applied to the skin, and the pus is drawn off with a small tube.

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