ON THE PURCHASE OF OUTFITS FOR INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

By DORA DE BLAQUIERE.

CHAPTER I.

WHETHER our journeys be to the far East, or to the East Coast of England only, the subject of wearing apparel is the first to be considered, for the whole family, beginning even with the master of the house, will certainly require the needful changes of raiment to make their stay enjoyable, and the body comfortable under all the circumstances which may befall them. Whether the journey be long or short, suitable clothes for each member, little or big, must be thought of, and this is, perhaps, one of the really difficult things which fall on the shoulders of the much-tried mother and wife. Of course, if she be well off, she has only to take the money, and order so many of everything and anything, and she runs through her long list of wants with a light heart. The shopkeepers will generally assist her—if she be not a woman of practical knowledge and determination—to a great number of things she does not need, and she will perhaps leave out many things she really cannot manage without, and which have to be supplied in the near future at great expense, and in that hurry of departure which makes even the most careful reckless and extravagant.

But be the outfit Indian, Eastern, Colonial, or only for the English seaside, or a Continental journey, it is well to begin the campaign with a chat with some friend who knows the locality, if possible; then with your father or husband, or whoever manages the financial family matters, so as to find out whether the family wants can be fully supplied, or only partially so, and how much money can be allowed to provide for everything.

It is not easy for men to realise the wants of women and children, so it is well if the wife, mother, or daughter have a dress allowance, and in that case she can go to the fountain-head with quiet confidence, and say, "I can manage with £30, £40, or £100," as the case may be. But this can only be done after a careful inspection of the family wardrobe, and much thought and careful management, so that she can make every shilling go as far as possible. The only practical way to arrive at the real state of things, is to make a list of the existing wardrobe, and another of what is needed to bring the stock for everyone up to the mark of efficiency. A separate list should be made for each member of the family, and a careful account given of the condition of the articles in hand, and of what she thinks will be needed to add to that stock. In case of very long voyages, such as that to New Zealand or to Queensland, the Cape or India, all the old and half-worn things will have to be used *for the voyage*; and, in most instances, this provision will pretty well exhaust the ordinary clothes in stock, for we no longer have the amount of clothes which our grandmothers thought needful. Many ladies content themselves with half a dozen of everything, and prefer to purchase underclothing as it is needed; never thinking of laying in garments which must be stored up unused in drawers and cupboards, until the very patterns in which they are made become old-fashioned, and the calico yellow and musty, before it comes into daily wear. I have often seen people with underlinen twenty years old, made up at the time of their marriage, and stored up to be carried about as useless lumber ever after. Perhaps if they be methodical people they make a struggle to wear things in turn, which mends matters a little.

The good old days of Indian outfits, of dozens and dozens of underlinen, and hundreds of dresses, seem to have passed away, to return no more. Locomotion and the parcel post, and also improved methods of manufacturing materials, combined with new ways of looking at the sanitary and hygienic questions of dress, are amongst the reasons for this change. The adoption of woollen underclothing for hot as well as cold climates, the use of spun silk for underclothing for men as well as women, and the introduction of the different forms of combination underlinen, have all of them done wonders towards increasing our comfort, and decreasing our thousand cares and worries.

The new rule as regards underwear, which we endeavour to follow to-day, is that of wearing the least amount of clothing possible, combined with the greatest degree of warmth; and where this rule is understood and adopted, and successfully applied to daily life, it will be found the greatest help in all matters connected with outfits. The use of the "combination garment" does away with one garment completely—the chemise—and thus our outfit is simplified at once. So what we have to consider are combinations, corsets, stockings, and petticoats, which would constitute the smallest amount of underclothing we could have. The addition of other articles would be a question of individual preference. For very hot climates, woollen underwear seems to be the safest in every way, and nothing can exceed the beauty of our English manufactures of thin woollen, thin merino, and Indian gauze, which range in price from eight shillings and sixpence to twelve shillings and sixpence each, and which, with care in the mending and in the washing, will wear extremely well.

They should be selected to fit well, but not tightly; as if tight, no allowance is left for shrinking, and consequently they will not wear well, but will fall into holes wherever there is a strain upon them. Fine wool or silk is supplied at most shops for darning them, and also printed directions for washing them. I have found that the ironing is about the most important part to attend to, for they must be ironed while damp, with a cool iron, so as to preserve their elasticity. There are several ways of washing them—the paraffin method answers well; also with borax, or with a little lump of ammonia in the water. A simple method is to make a lather first, by dissolving the soap in hot water, and boiling till quite dissolved and in a lather, using a pound of soap to four gallons of water, or in that proportion at least. (Add two teaspoonfuls of borax if the articles be coloured.) Do not rub the things at all, but simply draw them through the hands, over and over again. Soap should never be rubbed upon them, as it makes all woollen or knitted things hard. Wring lightly at first, then rinse through two, or even three waters, which should be warm; in fact, quite as warm as the original lather, about 90° to 96° Fahrenheit. There seem to be only two or three rules for observance in washing flannels or woollen woven under-garments: Never to wash nor rinse in either hot or cold water, as both of them cause the flannel or woollen to shrink very suddenly, whereby it retains the soap in its texture, and is discoloured, drying like a piece of parchment. Neither should woollens be submitted to great heat when drying, and when possible should be dried in a shady place in the open air. No soap should ever be rubbed on anything woollen, but a hot lather should be employed, and when just warm throw in your woollens, drawing them through the water with your hands, but not rubbing them. The best heat will be what is called "tepid" or "loo-warm."

I have been thus particular in describing the washing of flannels and all other woollens, as it is equally important to a gentleman's clothing as to a lady's; for this is emphatically the day of woollens in every part of dress, and nothing is so annoying as to have a nice suit of tennis flannels spoilt, or some possibly expensive underclothing.

Amongst the valuable suggestions recently made, is the use of fine "Nun's veiling" for either ladies' or gentlemen's underwear. Either in white or cream, it makes beautiful combinations and nightgowns. It is both light and warm, and less heavy than flannel. There is another material called "woollen gauze," also elastic woollen fabrics in various qualities.

All of these make useful garments for the outfit, and good paper patterns for combinations are now very easily procured. In India, needlework is done in each household by the tailor attached to it; but he will always require a pattern to work by, and in most Eastern countries cotton muslins may be found, which have been too little thought of hitherto by Europeans. Some of these, notably those made in Syria and Arabia, and in Turkey, make very pretty and well-wearing frocks. In fact, we are manufacturing the same muslins in England, and many people are wearing them under various names, generally claiming the East as their origin.

It seems best to be guided by common sense in all matters relating to your outfit. In the present day, too large and varied a one is a source of worry only, for there are now few countries where shopping for necessaries cannot be performed quite as cheaply as at home. Illustrated fashion magazines give an idea of what other people look like, so far as the outer woman is concerned; and good paper patterns, as I have said before, are not difficult to obtain.

Some practical suggestions on the outfits now thought needful by the principal firms of tradesmen in the metropolis, may be obtained by writing for their price lists, which may be consulted with profit as to the best things to take, and all the new improvements. As a rule the quantities are far too large, and this may always be provided against. The woman who has habituated herself to wear combination under-garments is, of course, better off than her sister who wears the old-fashioned chemise and drawers, for she has only one garment to think about, and for travel and residence in foreign countries that means not a little additional rest and comfort. There is also a very good nightgown combination, which is most comfortable for hot countries; and, indeed, some ladies in the East have followed the example of their husbands, and adopted a night garment not unlike a bathing-gown, with loose drawers and a jacket, so as to have the advantages of a pyjama. These may be made in some pretty-coloured material, such as batiste, or printed and coloured linens or cottons; and if the trousers be made on the model of the divided skirt—even though in your nightgown—you may be decently visible

when passing from room to room in your needful journeys to the children and their apartments.

With regard to the amount of clothing to be taken, it is naturally difficult to advise where personal circumstances respectively must differ so widely, where climate demands consideration, and where habits of life are quite altered. The social aspects of life also demand consideration, for if you intend to enter into society, you must provide yourself with suitable dress. Tennis also demands a suit of flannels, and so does boating. In this respect a gentleman is much better off than a lady, for his suit of dress clothes is unchangeable, and if made by a good tailor, in a modern fashion, he will be presentable anywhere; and on no journey should he be without it, for it is impossible to foresee the treats he may miss, or the discomforts he may be put to, for lack of it. And it seems to me that an Englishman never looks so thoroughly a well-bred gentleman as in that dress suit which has been so much abused. But for travelling, the Englishwoman is also fortunate, for since the introduction of black lace dresses for both day and evening wear, she can supply herself with a well-arranged skirt, and have two bodices made to it; one for the daytime, and one for evening, and this will take the place of two dresses. This gown, with a well-made black silk, a tailor-made travelling gown, and two or three blouses of foulard and sateen, will, I think, supply all the dress you need, even for a prolonged journey, either on the Continent or elsewhere. For a sea voyage, you would have to add something looser in the way of a dress; perhaps one that will put on and off easily, and yet look pretty and suitable. In my next article I shall enter into the question of "travelling outfits," which usually present a very mountain of difficulties to everybody.

(To be continued.)

IMPRESSIONS OF CELEBRATED PIANOFORTE PIECES.

By ERNST PAUER, Principal Professor of the Pianoforte at the Royal College of Music.

"THE RIVULET" (ANDANTE OP. 16, NO. 3).

BY FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY.

THIS charming movement has by universal consent been entitled "The Rivulet," and in this case no exception could be taken, even by the most fastidious critic, to a name which is thoroughly appropriate to the character of the music. During Mendelssohn's first visit to England he stayed in Wales, in the house of Mr. Taylor, to whose three daughters he presented these pieces, which are numbered as Op. 16. Their title is "Trois Fantaisies ou Caprices." This one is the last of the set, and is highly expressive of that quaint charm Mendelssohn's first compositions possess. A most harmonious figure winds its way along like a streamlet flowing through a quiet, peaceful wood. We seem to hear the sweet and pure voice of a girl carolling beside the streamlet; presently the voice stops, a mysterious whispering seems to ensue, the girl might sing with the poet—

"Thou hast with thy soft murmur
My senses charm'd away.
What do I call a murmur,
That cannot murmur be?
The water-nymphs are singing
Their roundelays for me."

The strain of the water-nymphs is dying away, and the maiden takes up the former song. At last we lose even the sounds of her sweet voice, and listen only to the harmonious rippling and bubbling of the rivulet. The whole piece is surrounded with an undisturbed serenity and purity, seldom to be met with in such productions. Although small in form, it is great in artistic beauty. It is a musical picture of still life, executed with perfect harmony, elegance, and finish, and therefore not only pleasing, but also highly instructive as a model of composition and a study for performance.

CARL MARIA VON WEBER'S "INVITATION TO THE DANCE"

is a perfect little musical novel, in which a youth and a maiden may be imagined as playing the principal part. First, the young man approaches humbly and modestly, with his reverential salutation. The young lady returns his greeting with graceful courtesy and a certain maidenly reserve. A quiet and, it may be supposed, a slightly sentimental conversation begins. Soon the young people become better acquainted, and he asks her to dance; she gracefully consents. And now the whole orchestra strikes up the brilliant and splendid valse tune; we hear the bustle and the animation of the whole company, and for awhile our young folks are forgotten. But now we perceive how gracefully and how swiftly she moves along, whilst the partner accompanies her, but with a heavier step. After they have danced the first round there follows a little rest, and then comes that delicious dialogue which so agreeably fills the pauses in the dance, emblematic of those quiet moments in which we snatch a little rest in the bustle and excitement of life. But, who comes here? Alas! is it not the grumbling papa, unpleasantly and perseveringly vigilant, and impatient and dissatisfied at all these whispered words! But good-natured mamma, sympathising with her darling daughter's enjoyment, intervenes with petitions for another round; but the papa is obstinate, and the parents almost begin to quarrel with each other on the occasion, whilst the young people seem quite unconcerned about it, for they are hard at work, dancing again. With full enjoyment the whole company throws itself once more into the dance, and with a grand crash of sound the superb valse reaches its conclusion. The orchestra stops, the young gentleman leads his fair and amiable partner back to her seat, and she, with a graceful courtesy and a much more tender expression than at the beginning, takes leave of him, whilst he walks off with a heavy heart. Two chords sound like two sighs of regret, and the pretty little novel is closed.

BERCEUSE, BY F. CHOPIN.

In the whole wide range of our pianoforte literature there is scarcely a piece to be found so delicate, so transparent—one might almost say so much like filigree work—as this Berceuse. The melody is simple and short, the bass remains always the same, and yet the piece, actually built on two or, at most, on four bars, does not become monotonous. Chopin appears to have pictured in his imagination a young mother sitting beside the cradle, and gently rocking the couch with its beloved occupant. She herself reclines on her chair, at first humming to her darling a sweet tune. By-and-by the mother dozes, and all kinds of ethereal, lofty and fantastical figures appear to her like a vision. Softer and softer become the movements of the cradle, simpler are the figures which pass in turn before the mother's fancy in her dreaming state; quiet reigns more and more, and at last the cradle stands still: mother and child are alike wrapped in quiet, peaceful sleep.

"LA TRUITE" (THE TROUT) AND "SALTARELLO."

BY STEPHEN HELLER.

Stephen Heller has provided amateurs of the piano with a large number of fine, interesting, and romantic compositions; his name must be esteemed by anyone who has to teach that instrument for his beautiful, ever-fresh studies, Op. 16, 45 and 46, which shorten many an otherwise tedious hour, and contribute to make teaching not a work of drudgery, but comparatively an agreeable task. Mendelssohn once wrote to his father, that the room in which Bach's sacred music may happen to be sung is at once transformed into a chapel. It may also be said that the room in which studies of Heller, Cramer, Moscheles, and Chopin are well played and with due expression, we find a pleasant and agreeable abode. Heller has really introduced a philanthropic principle into the work of teaching. As already said, his original pieces, influenced though they may be by Chopin, are treasures, and many precious gems will be found among them. But not only his original pieces have made his name famous: his transcriptions, fantasias, paraphrases, or how they may be called, have become so-called stock pieces, and of these his charming "Truite" and his spirited "Saltarello" claim our earnest attention. The process he has brought to bear upon the construction of these pieces is one well known to those acquainted with the training of trees; it is the system of "inoculation." The branches taken from the gardens of Schubert and Mendelssohn have been grafted upon the tree of Heller; they thrive and bear new blossoms and new fruit. The ingenuity with which Heller set to work is highly interesting and admirable. He takes a little phrase of Schubert in the "Truite," and spins it out into a delightful melody; minor phrases are converted into major, and everywhere with happy effect. The delightful bubbling of Schubert's brook is transformed by Heller into a mountain stream, and new episodes are invented in strict keeping with Schubert's song. By all this Heller has succeeded in transforming an unpretending little song of Schubert's, replete with an indescribable charm of *naïveté*, into a rondo of goodly proportions. With the "Saltarello" he has merely taken the first subject of the last movement of Mendelssohn's so-called Italian Symphony. He is incited to such speed by the facile key of A minor, that we can imagine we almost see the sunburnt Romans and their wild and frenzied dance. The soothing major, invented by Heller, is like oil on troubled waters, but the repose is not for long; the noise begins again, the bustle increases, but this time soon to terminate. We get another glimpse of Mendelssohn: the beautiful clarinet passage from the last movement of the Scotch Symphony is introduced with its quiet melancholy, the triple movement of the Saltarello surrounding it. Heller, as a true musician and clever tactician, profits by this new accession, to bind it to what precedes, and thus to build up an effective Finale, one worthy of a composition full of intellect, and at once stimulating and pleasing.

the blame must rest on you and this disgracefully-luxurious chair, which has a corrupting influence on my habits, yet detains me in spite of myself."

Miss Flint closed her eyelids with a species of snap, much as she habitually closed her lips when she had said something particularly cutting.

"You shall have the room to yourself for awhile," said Mrs. Burford. "Come, Rose." And, followed by her daughter, she left Miss Flint to enjoy her nap, though under protest, in that disgracefully-easy chair.

"I could have taken a nap, too, if you had let me alone, mamma," said Rose. "I was just as well inclined for one as Miss Flint herself; for you know I was up late last night."

"You might have disturbed her, Rose, and that would have been a pity. Sleep makes people amiable."

"Then why did you hinder me from it? Miss Flint would not have disturbed me, unless she snored very loudly, and I scarcely think she would do that in the daytime," returned the girl, in anything but an amiable tone. But she followed her mother to the morning-room, and deposited herself on a seat equally comfortable with the one she had left.

(To be continued.)

ON THE PURCHASE OF OUTFITS FOR INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

By DORA DE BLAQUIERE.

PART II.

TRAVELLING OUTFITS.

PERHAPS nothing is more difficult than to make up one's mind on "what to take and what to leave," when we are starting from home on a journey of two or three months only. Packing up during the course of such a journey gives no trouble at all, because one naturally has no deliberations in this way, as everything we have with us has to be taken and crammed in somehow, so we go on "straight ahead," as the American phrase has it. But the necessity for frequent decisions is most irksome, and we are generally haunted by the fear of somebody else's vexation, if we forget some trifle which they are accustomed to have at home. It would be well if we were strong-minded enough to dismiss this kind of fear, and to acquire comfort and consolation from the thought that "we did our best," and having done so, to decline to reproach ourselves, even if we do forget anything. Better still, every traveller should pack her own portmanteau. In pursuance of this wise resolve, supposing we have to act for others, we shall take a quiet half-hour to think over what we shall unquestionably require, and endeavour to dismiss what we fancy we may need. Now, this is a very difficult thing to do, and the imaginary "essentials" are just the very ones which we seem to value the most. In my experience I find that we can dismiss fully half the things which at first sight we think the most needful for us to take. But I am an old traveller, used to wandering from my earliest days of childhood, and I have arrived at minimising my luggage in a wonderful manner, and at packing what I do take with me in the smallest space.

We will make, for instance, a trip of a month or two months' duration during the summer or autumn months to Switzerland, taking Paris *en route*, and perhaps staying at the Italian lakes. The smallest amount of luggage you could take for this period would be one medium-sized valise, containing three dresses, or rather one on, and two in your trunk. These, and all the needful underclothes, could be contained in even a small portmanteau or trunk of American leather, strengthened by leather corners, and good straps, measuring 30 inches long by 18 inches wide, and from 12 to 15 inches deep. This should have handles at the side, over the lock, so that it can be carried easily, and great care should be taken to keep down the weight, 56 lb. being the allowance of luggage on second-class tickets from London to Bâle, by the direct route, as well as on most of the other direct routes to Switzerland. In Switzerland you pay for every pound of luggage, and so you do in Italy, with the exception of the small articles you carry in your hand, *i.e.*, your handbag, rugs, and possibly books, or hat box. You should, if possible, know the weight of your luggage in kilogrammes, one of which is equal to about 2½ lb. English; and whatever the amount you have, I should advise you to cling to it with determination and never allow yourself to be separated from it, and superintend the Customs examination in person. Luggage sent on by goods train in Italy has lately been subject to long detentions, damage, and theft, and no articles of great value should be carried in trunks. Even if you do take my advice on the size of your trunk, and take it always with you in the same train, I should not advise you to carry any valuables in it. Indeed, if you want to spend a thoroughly happy holiday, you should pack up your jewels and send them to the bank before you leave home, only retaining enough with you to make you look pleasant to the eye and suitably attired.

The rest of your outfit for this short journey will consist of a couple of jackets for out of doors—one thin, and the other thick; two blouses in washing silk or cotton to wear in extreme heat. Two night-dresses and two changes of underclothing will be enough, for you can have them washed wherever you go. Stockings and pocket handkerchiefs must be left to personal opinion and individual requirement, but as regards the former, and boots and shoes, I should advise you to take them well-fitting and really good. Stockings should be without darns, if possible; and for summer use thread are the best. Half-worn boots or shoes are better, and more comfortable than new ones; and before starting on your journey they should be carefully looked over, especially as to the heels, and if at all worn down they should be re-heeled. Take boot and shoe laces and some buttons and strong thread to sew them on with. Filoselle is the best thing for darning thread and spun silk stockings, and it requires splitting into two or three threads to make it fine enough to use.

The three gowns for your summer journey should be a thin serge or tweed tailor-made gown, a black lace one, and a washing or pongee silk, or else some kind of grenadine, which will look well at any time of the day. A pretty dust cloak should be chosen, and a waterproof; and with a thick shawl and a pair of comfortable slippers, I think you will perform your journey so far happily, and in great ease.

This amount of clothes is quite enough for a far longer journey by land, with a stay in many places. Of course, for extended journeys by water, voyages of a fortnight's duration or so, you would need more underlinen, and probably more wraps; and a fur cloak would be of great use. In going out to India or the East by Suez, for instance, the English climate may be said to last until you get to Gibraltar, and perhaps further; but by the time you reach Suez, you will require all the thin garments possible for your journey further on, and all the good temper and pleasant manners you possess as well, to keep you personally cool and preserve your equanimity unruffled during those nights and days of heat.

We had better now, I think, take a voyage round the world, as offering an opportunity for giving examples of necessary outfits. Here we have our general comfort to consider, and I should advise a course of reading before

starting, and the establishment of a note-book arranged in the order of the journey. This must contain any ideas you may have gathered in your reading as to the places you visit, and how best to see and do everything. A traveller has recently stated that he considers it, on the whole, the best thing to start on your journey round the world armed with Cook's tickets throughout, and, as he had made the experiment without them, I suppose he had found out that he had made a mistake. The traveller round the world from England has two routes from which to choose; he may go either East or West. By the first he may travel by land a good distance before taking to the water; but by the second he must take ship at once, and endure the pleasures, pains, and perils of a sea voyage, with no land journey to break him in and accustom him to travelling.

If our traveller takes letters of introduction with him, and intends to see society as well, it will naturally make a difference in the outfit to be taken. So far as men are concerned this really makes no addition to their luggage, because no man of wisdom in the present day would ever venture to go away from home, for a week even, without a dress suit, white ties, and his dress shoes and socks. But for a woman it is different. She has to prepare for at least three or four occasions when she must appear in full dress.

A gentleman's outfit for a journey round the world would be nearly as follows: Dress suit, etc.; three travelling suits, heavy, medium, and very light; two great coats, heavy and light; ulster and cap, waterproof; two ordinary walking suits, medium and light in texture, according to the time he intends remaining stationary; a frock coat; twelve white shirts; six flannel ditto; two dozen collars, two dozen socks, two dozen handkerchiefs; neckties, hats, and gloves. If he intends shooting, hunting, or mountaineering, of course this must be provided for, and also any special idiosyncrasies. A dust coat or two—one linen and one of silk—will also be needful.

The outfit required for a lady on such a journey would probably be a travelling gown of beige, serge, homespun, cheviot, or ladies' cloth, not necessarily new, to be used on sea voyages, with jacket either to match or to go with it, made simply—preferably tailor-made. There must be a hat or bonnet to match, a veil of gauze or grenadine, a hood for travelling and at sea, of black or coloured silk; warm ulster, cloak, or fur cloak; good rug, and one with waterproof side; tailor-made gown of tweed to land in, and a lighter gown of same kind to wear on ordinary occasions; jackets to match; a washing silk, surah or pongee; two cottons—one dark and one light; a black silk with high and low bodice; a black lace with ditto; several blouses in silk, cotton, flannel, and elastic material; a mantle for dressy occasions; two dust cloaks made of washing or tussore silk, made up so that they can be worn without the bodice of dress—a great comfort when the weather is hot on long railway journeys—one dozen and a half of stockings—thread, silk, and wool; handkerchiefs, gloves, veils, and a workbox or bag, with cottons, silks, needles, and all the requisites for working. A piece of fancy needlework should also be taken, as it proves a comfort to have some employment at times; and some knitting is also a pleasant substitute for otherwise constant reading. I need not remind you to take pens, ink, and paper, and to choose a travelling-case which you can hold on your knee, and on which you can write comfortably. A "stylographic" pen is also a great comfort, and so is an indelible pencil.

This outfit could, I think, be comfortably packed in small space, viz., the regulation cabin trunk or portmanteau, with its flat top, so constructed as to fit under any berth or sofa in an Atlantic or "P. and O." steamer. These are of a most useful size, and hold a really wonderful amount—enough for three weeks at least, on board ship. Three dresses and a sufficiency of underlinen can be packed in them easily; a dressing-bag, with all the toilette requisites, and a "hold-all," for wraps and odds and ends. These will comprise all the cabin requisites. Of the many varieties of trunks I need give no opinion, save that I should not recommend a tin one, which is apt to be unsatisfactory in wear, to become scratched and dented with usage, and, "last, but not least," to get their locks broken off with too much ease. Then there is the "Saratoga trunk," which hails from America, and is perhaps the very best ever invented, when not too large. But I have lately seen on the Continent some perfectly frightful specimens of this genus, which were carried, or rather taken, about by American tourists, and I am glad to say that we have not yet begun to make such Noah's arks in England, and which require two men to stir them from their places. They are made of some tough and well-seasoned wood, which is light at the same time, covered with leather, and clasped with bands of iron, and strips of light wood laid across. They generally contain several trays, the top one being divided into a receptacle for bonnets, parasols, fine laces, and starched things. They are lined with extreme neatness, and have very good locks, and they should have castors or wooden rollers, set in between wooden bands at the bottom of the trunk, so that they can be rolled about by a touch.

The next thing wanted is a basket. These are now made very strong and durable; but could not be recommended for a voyage round the world, nor could the ordinary leather trunk, nor the old-fashioned solid leather portmanteau, to which our fathers held so faithfully for many a year. Trunks are expensive things to buy, and range from £2 to £7, and perhaps more; and, as a rule, unless you be a pronounced "stay-at-home," you had better purchase a good one. If you are travelling with old trunks, I need not caution you to have them well looked over before starting—locks, hinges, straps, and the bands of webbing which are used inside for the trays, all these should be looked at before starting. It is a comfort to think that we have passed the days of trunk covers in holland, linen, and even striped ticking, which used to be considered needful to protect our trunks. I saw one at the station at Paris this summer, made to fit the trunk, and tied across underneath with long tape strings. The French porters did not know what to make of it, and the Customs officer approached it with fear depicted in his face, and evidently thought of dynamite. The sight of the poor, cheap trunk beneath was a relief, though he evidently wondered why it had been so carefully covered. To me it spoke volumes of the untravelled folk who owned it, and who had ventured forth from some country home in England to see the splendours of the French capital; and perhaps—who knows?—to climb to the highest stage of the Eiffel Tower! Why we ever covered up our trunks I cannot imagine, nor why we should have wanted to preserve them in their pristine newness, a hopeless endeavour at best. To-day the old traveller takes rather a pride in the ever-increasing number of labels and marks which record the wanderings he has made by land and sea, and the various hostelries wherein he has taken his ease. How well one knows certain of them—the Black Bear on a red ground, of Grindelwald, for instance, or the White Swan that looks on the Lake of Lucerne.

On board the "P. and O." steamers each passenger is allowed 336 lbs. of luggage; and on the American steamers the allowance is equally generous, though measured in square feet instead. For Eastern travel or sojourn, it is needful to have, of course, the tin boxes with plain pine covers, which are made for the purpose, for, owing to the climate and the insects, everything must be kept in tin, or else it will be spoilt. These boxes cost about four pounds each, according to size; but they are absolute necessaries for the sojourner in the East. And now, perhaps, I may repeat here what a woman of great experience once said to me on the outfit question, "Beware of too much; there is no need to fear taking too little." This is quite true, for most people's outfits contain quantities of things which they could quite well do without; and Indian cottons and muslins and Indian embroideries are certainly as good, if not cheaper and better than English ones; besides, you can have everything made in your verandah, after your own patterns and ideas. Woven gauze and merino underclothing had better be taken, and also stockings, boots, and shoes; best dresses, also; but cottons, muslins, and silks for daily wear can be bought and made in India. If you choose to go to this trouble, there is no doubt that the expense of outfit and dress may be greatly lessened there as elsewhere.

Amongst the articles to be thought of in making up a travelling outfit must be mentioned an indiarubber folding bath, an Etna or small spirit kettle, and a bottle of spirits; some tea and a little sugar; a bath towel or two; an air cushion, or a pillow; a small drinking cup and flask; soap; a pot of Liebig or Bovril; matches and candles; medicine; some potted meat for sandwiches; insect powder and mosquito netting; vaseline, lip salve, camphor, sal volatile, seidlitz powders, mustard leaves, chlorodyne, and eau de cologne.

(To be continued.)

ON THE PURCHASE OF OUTFITS FOR INDIA AND THE COLONIES.

By DORA DE BLAQUIERE.

PART III.

PERHAPS one of the most practical commentaries on the outfit question for journeys of two or three months has been recently given by Miss Nellie Bly, the New York journalist, who made the circuit of the earth in seventy-two days, six hours, and eleven minutes, leaving New York on Nov. 14th, 1889, and reaching that city again on Jan. 25th, 1890—two months and eleven days. This remarkable journey was accomplished with no other luggage than a handbag containing the needful changes of linen and brushes and combs, her railroad and steamer tickets for the entire route, and Bank of England notes for £500. Only one gown—and that on her back—a warm cloak and rug; but nothing that she could not carry with comfort herself, thus securing that no delays should arise from taking luggage or from the loss of it. Her route was from New York to Liverpool, London, Dover, Calais, Brindisi, Port Said, Aden, Colombo, Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and across the Pacific and San Francisco. Then she went by train to New York. Her competitor, Miss Elizabeth Bisland, of the *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, went the reverse way, departing for San Francisco, leaving the passage across the Atlantic, always rather doubtful in the winter season as to the time it occupies, to the last, and this apparently is what caused her defeat, for she was only able to catch a slow boat at Liverpool, and arrived in New York some few days after her rival. Miss Nellie Bly is thirty, Miss Bisland is twenty-two years of age. Miss Bly went from Calais to Amiens, *en route*, to visit Jules Verne, the well-known author of "Round the World in Eighty Days," where she consulted that distinguished Frenchman on the possibilities of her accomplishing her journey round the earth in even a shorter time than his vivid imagination had allowed.

The prices of tours round the world I find vary from £131 by Australia and New Zealand, to £162 by India and Ceylon. The story of Miss Bly's luggage shows conclusively how much the efforts of the reformers in woman's clothing have done for her in that way by the introduction of the combination garment and coloured petticoats and stays, as well as in other ways, in which fashion has gone hand in hand with common sense. It seems as if, while the "Reform Dress Society" was deliberating here on the best walking or daily working dress, the whole problem had been completely solved by this American lady in her two months and eleven days' journey. I should fancy the contents of what the Americans call her "hand-sachel," which would be a good-sized handbag, would be about as follows: Four combination garments, three nightdresses, two pairs thick and two pairs thin stockings, a dozen handkerchiefs, a pair of house shoes, two blouses, one of cambric, one of silk, two pairs gloves, a flannel dressing jacket. As so many people in America do not wear flannels, I make no mention of them. They seem to be less needful in that dry climate than here, and in Canada it is quite the exception for women to wear any flannels, save the flannel knickerbockers for walking in the snow. The houses are kept quite too warm for any very excessive covering with such a material. Here in England it is the damp which we have to guard against, and which seems to render the cold more penetrating.

We have so many nice shapes and descriptions of bags here in England, that everyone can make a choice of the kind individually required. If it be mostly intended for visiting about in the houses of friends, I should recommend the purchase of a fitted one, as the fittings are the most comfortable solution of the difficulty of carrying about your personal requirements, and look well on the dressing-table wherever you are staying; but for a really comfortable travelling bag, a very large amount of fittings seems rather a bother, though some are a comfort. Amongst the newest and best bags, we find the fittings arranged in the centre of the opening, which, when thrown back on each side, leaves a kind of well, which will hold a large quantity of things. Arranged in this way, the articles which comprise the fittings are easily got at when required. Other bags have the fittings, which are few and simple, arranged all on one side, and this seems to me a much better plan than to have them arranged on both sides. The fitted "Gladstone bags," with the fittings on a kind of leaf in the centre, are also very convenient, and some of these are now sold at very moderate prices, the fittings being quite good enough for all ordinary use. Perhaps the brushes and combs might be of a little better quality, but that might be altered by giving a few shillings extra when purchasing.

But if we take the case that you are not quite well enough off to purchase a bag ready fitted, the next best thing is to fit one up for yourself. This is easily done by taking your empty bag and a piece of broad elastic, and sew it on to the side of the bag in loops which are large enough to hold what you most require in travelling. These would be a soap box, a bottle, or small flask for eau de Cologne, and another bottle for your glycerine, or a small pot for cold-cream, either of which you are sure to need on your journey. If you choose, you can also make places for other articles—viz., the button-hook, clothes-brush, comb and brush, nail-scissors, and tooth-brush. But I think you will find a case of brown linen or cretonne, made with strings to tie up, and fitted with elastic in the same way that you have fitted the side of your bag, the best method of carrying these. This case is made in exactly the same way as the old-fashioned "housewives," and for a sea voyage is unquestionably a capital plan for carrying your little toilette necessaries. You can unroll and spread it out on your sofa or berth, and have all that you need before you, without the necessity for groping about blindly in your bag, when feeling too ill to sit up or even to do more than drag on your clothes, and fly upstairs into the open air. For unquestionably the open air and a recumbent position offer our only chance of conquering our dreadful enemy, sea-sickness, and the sooner we exhume ourselves out of our cabins in the morning, the better for us in every way.

These cases, of which I have been speaking, can be purchased in American cloth at most bazaars and shops where travelling necessaries are sold, but I like them best when home-made. Many ladies prefer a good-sized sponge bag, into which they put their soap wrapped in a piece of oil-silk, with the nail and tooth brushes, and tooth-powder box; thus making one bag do for the washing apparatus. A bag for the comb and brush, hairpins, etc., is also preferred by some; a little bottle of ammonia for insect bites; a teaspoon, and a small cup or travelling-glass; a clean towel, and a small work-bag, with working utensils in it, the cottons being wound on cards, to economise space as much as possible. If you travel frequently, all these things may be left in the bag; but be sure to remember to dust and tidy it, and dry all the washing things when you are once again at home.

Do not forget a small but convenient writing-case, with one stiff side on which you can write on your knee, if necessary; and do not fill up the pockets with extra paper or envelopes or old letters. Take only as much paper as you will certainly need, a few spare pens, and remember your own penhandle, sealing wax, and seal; a very safe travelling ink bottle, filled with ink, and, if possible, a small letter-weighing machine, which can now be bought of very small and convenient size. You will find the list of rates of postage to the different countries of the world and the weights of letters at the end of any diary—such as "Letts's" or "Pettitt's"—that you may have; and the acquirement of this knowledge will not take long, and will prove most useful to you at all times, furthermore saving many a visit to the post-office.

I have been careful to mention seal and sealing wax, because, on the Continent, when you wish to forward an unlocked parcel—such as a roll or rug—you must tie a cord round it, and seal the cord at every knot. The Italian railways, for instance, refuse to take unlocked parcels, but will accept the seals willingly. It is sometimes wise, also, to seal your letters, as the seal retains much of its ancient prestige in foreign countries, and constitutes a defence to the gummed envelope which nothing else would do. So you should practise making seals until you can do one well.

In addition to what I have mentioned for travelling, you should have a good rug and shawl, also a small pillow, either of soft down or else an air-pillow covered with a cretonne, but for which you can carry, with little trouble, a small linen pillow-case, which will add much to your comfort at night, with its cool and pleasant surface next your face; and this you can have washed, so that it will be clean for every journey. This pillow can be carried in the shawl-strap. Your parasol and umbrella should be united in a good *en-tout-cas*, as the new large-sized parasols are called; they are quite big enough for ordinary use in rain, and are not too large for the sun. One with a hook-handle is of use in travelling, as you can hang it on your arm, and thus have the use of your hands for other things. For long voyages you will require a steamer or deck chair, and in choosing this I should advise you to make a personal trial of it, and then to have your name legibly painted on the one you select.

For long journeys you must not forget to take a comfortable travelling cap, for which you will be glad to exchange on a long railway journey, as you can then lean back comfortably. For very long voyages many ladies carry

some kind of pretty hood, which will be comfortable to lie down in, and yet not too unbecoming in the wearing.

During most of the year passengers through the Red Sea and also the Indian Ocean are obliged by the excessive heat to sleep on deck, as the stifling air of the hot and confined cabins completely banishes sleep; the decks are more airy and certainly cooler, and thus beds are made up on them, one side being reserved for ladies and the other for gentlemen. For this purpose you will require a cotton or print dressing-gown of a dark colour, to put on over your nightgown, for sleeping on deck. The voyage to Hong Kong comprises the most numerous changes of climate at every season of the year. It lasts eight weeks, and washing can be done at Suez, Singapore, and Colombo, the latter being half-way; between Plymouth and Suez, or at Venice and Suez, as well. When nearing Hong Kong you will need your warm clothing. For the hot weather you will certainly require six or eight cottons, prints, or muslins, and a lace, or grenadine and silk, for evening, for on board the P. and O. steamers going to Australia and the East there is a good deal of dress at dinner, and a black lace dress is always suitable. For these voyages, also, you will need a shady hat, a white cotton umbrella, and a pair of goloshes, should the decks be wet.

The voyage across the Pacific Ocean is shorter, and both cool and warm dress will be needed. It lasts from three weeks to sixteen days, the shortest, and you must take all you require with you. After April, both in the Pacific and Mediterranean, washing dresses will be needed, as it is sometimes extremely hot in the latter sea. But, of course, washing can be done at many ports where you stop.

The most recent authorities on "Outfits for Japan" seem to discourage the idea of taking out anything very large in that way, as some of the European shops are excellent, and there is a branch of the well-known Parisian emporium, "Au Printemps." There are also plenty of good native materials in silks, crêpes, and cottons; and the native workpeople are extremely clever in copying any patterns given to them. During the winter months serge and furs are desirable; and in the autumn and spring cashmere, homespuns, tweeds, and silks. In the hot weather cottons, zephyrs, and washing-silk sare worn, just as they would be anywhere else; and as the washing is excellent, there is no difficulty about getting them up. In case you ride, the habit chosen should be of thin cloth, not thick; and as tennis-playing is very general, a light flannel gown should not be forgotten.

With regard to the outfit for China, perhaps a little more must be said. In the winter the ladies wear much the same things as in England—a sealskin jacket, and a warm serge, cloth, or cheviot are quite suitable. January, February, and March are very cold indeed; the latter part of March, April, and May are warm, and generally damp. June and July wet, and exceedingly hot, with breathless nights. August and September are dryer, but hotter; and in September the nights begin to get cooler; October being the pleasantest month of all the year in China. For the summer months the thinnest gowns and underclothes are needed; but like most places in the East, it is now thought well to sleep in flannel all the year round. This account of climate refers to Hong Kong and China in general; the former place is perhaps damper than the northern parts.

Dress at the English seaside has become much simplified now, and few people consider it needful to take more than one simply-made gown of tweed, summer cloth, or serge, which will look neat and stylish, be useful, and stand hard wear to any amount. No trimmings are the order of the day for the seaside, so it is best to have all dresses made up with none, or perhaps with only velvet collars and cuffs. Blouse bodices, tucked Norfolk blouses, Garibaldis, or plain bodices are the most useful kinds to have; and a loose overjacket warm enough for protection against cold winds. If hats be worn, a close felt hat is the most comfortable; or if bonnets, only a neat, close-fitting bonnet, to match the dress. Caps likewise to match the dress are also very useful for the seaside, for which they are now specially made, and they have become so generally used that they are no longer considered fast-looking nor peculiar, and their usefulness is generally acknowledged. *En-tout-cas* are more useful than umbrellas at the seaside, as they are not so large, and can be used either for sun or rain. A colour should be chosen that will not fade nor change in the sea air, and, if possible, it should match the dress.

Large travelling cloaks, which are now so much worn, are also excellent for the seaside. They cover the dress completely, and are very pretty and graceful. They are made of woollen material, such a vicuna, which is now made with designs or patterns all over it, most frequently in black on a coloured ground. The colours usually chosen are blue, grey, green, and occasionally a terra-cotta. They cover the dress entirely, and are made in different shapes, sometimes gathered round the neck or with a fitted back, sling sleeves, or capes. For children, also, of all sizes the same rules of neat, careful dressing seem to be adopted by all observant and practical mothers who have suits of serge in sailor shape for their little boys, and similar ones with the sailor idea predominant for their girls, while elder girls, too, have some simple, well-made woollen dresses and jackets which will not spoil nor look shabby with much wear and tear. It now seems to be more fully understood that our hard-worked children, more than ourselves, need rest and recreation during their holidays, and that the best thing to be done with them is to let them be in the air and the sunshine (whenever that is granted to us) all day long. This can only be done with safety when they wear woollen clothes, and are so simply dressed that their garments attract no notice and are not easily spoilt. Thus we have begun to believe in Dr. Johnson's phrase, "that the best dressed woman is one of whom it may be said you know not what she has on."

VARIETIES.

In Dread of a Trumpet.—Cases of fainting on hearing music are not uncommon. Mozart was so susceptible to musical impressions that in his young days he fainted away at the sound of a trumpet, an instrument of which, up to the age of ten, he had the greatest dread.

The Contented Mind.

In crystal towers and turrets, richly set
With glittering gems that shine against the sun;
In regal rooms of jasper and of jet,
Content of mind not always likes to won [*dwell*];
But oftentimes it pleaseth her to stay
In simple cotes enclosed with walls of clay.
17th Century.

Advice Gratis.—The girl who spends most of her days in giving advice to her friends has no need to lie awake at nights wondering why she isn't popular.

Solitude and Prayer.—The harder our work the more we need solitude and prayer, without which work becomes mechanical and insincere.

Self Importance.—If some were half as big as they think they are, the world would have to be enlarged.

The Power of Music.

A well-known miser, having one evening in the early part of this century appeared at a concert at Vauxhall Gardens, a wit celebrated the circumstance in the following lines:—

Music has charms to soothe a savage breast,
To calm the tyrant and relieve th' opprest;
But Vauxhall concert's more attractive power
Unlocked Sir Richard's pocket at threescore.
O strange effect of music's matchless force,
T' extract two shillings from a miser's purse!

For the Ill-natured.—To ridicule the oddities of our neighbours is wit of the cheapest and easiest kind; and we can all be satirical if we give the reins to our ill-nature. The jest so amusing to ourselves may, however, inflict a deep wound upon a sensitive nature, while it seldom fails to bring a heavy retribution upon the author.

In Praise of Light.—Everywhere in the natural, no less than in the moral world, light is the great life-bringer. Without it, there is no permanent and deep-lying beauty. Well may all nations, in all ages, have called wisdom by the name of light, error and ignorance by the name of darkness, and transferred the names of light and brightness to whatever is happy and holy.—*Leo H. Grindon.*

A Definition of Painting.—Painting is the intermediate somewhat between a thought and a thing.—*Coleridge*

Know Nothing.—The worst thing about persons that don't know anything is that they don't know that they don't know anything.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE HOME.

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