GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.
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THE
NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

GOWN OF CRÉTON, AND CHILD'S NEW PROCK.
Perhaps it is as well to begin with the materials for winter use which bear the impress of most novelty. Of course, wool is naturally predominant; and it is the natural and characteristic prerequisite for fur when the thermometer falls below sixty degrees, and when "the winter winds do blow," as the old gloe has it. Cheviots, coarse, tussore, and woven all old friends; but there are certain novelties in them all. In serge we have the delightful change from evanescing navy-blue, or black, to greens, reds, and some lovely shades of brown—especially "tobacco" and golden-browns, both of which are amongst the fashionable winter colours. The newest serges are black, coarse, tussore, and woven diagonally. Cheviots and homespuns, and the more novel hop-sacking, follow the same rule—all three being rough and thick, with a reliable, in our dull and frozen Enland, is much of "knacker-bolker" effects, and many are flecked and dusted over with fancy spots and threads. Some woollen cloths seem quite thick enough to be made up without skirt linings. But otherwise, everyone who can possibly afford it has a silk lining, especially to their good-wool, does the utmost to their striped silks, and printed silks, and striped silks of all kinds are also very fashionable; and those old favourites black-and-white stripes—the black stripes being of satin, and the white ground of more—the stripes varying from the third of an inch to half an inch in width, and being more and more, the stripes of the last year will be quite as much used during the coming winter both on jackets and cloaks. We have seen lately so many long cloaks, that no doubt they will have a return to favour this winter; but they are very fattening to walk in, though delightful for driving. Those that I have seen are of a rich woolen material, lined throughout with worsted silks and edged with narrow bands of fur.

There seems no doubt that the "bell skirt" will remain in favour, and in its present modified form is really very graceful. But they require very careful making, and more so in this way than any other form we could select. I think they always seem better in winter than in the summer. This idea is given by the fitness being round the edge of the skirt and not at the top. Palamosions will amongst our winter fashions, and I think that everyone will be glad to welcome them. They seem a little uncertain about them, and they are threatened but not yet come. The round bodice with a belt seems to carry all before it, but I find that people to whom the long bodice is most becoming do not fear to wear them, and the use of the long sash tied at the back of the pointed bodice is not by any means left off. Sashes are of satin ribbon, watered black silk, or of reversible moire and silk, and they are tied so as to form two upright bows which are pinned when worn on the right side up against the bodice.

Skirts are made short enough to be quite comfortable for walking, and I cannot imagine why we women do not adopt, at all times, a skirt of a certain length for walking, whatever Dame Fashion may order for wear in the house. A small train, or at any rate a little more length, may be desirable indoors, especially in the case of a very tall woman or girl. But now that we have a wider model of skirt, even the tall girl looks well in it, and the longer petticoat is not so necessary.

The "butterfly bonnet" has been a great success, and all our bonnets are very small; but all of them have strings and retain the Minerva-like wings, which stand up either in front or behind. These are only superseded by the two upright single feathers, which latter, and a wide band of velvet, are the chief decoration of the new boat-shaped hat, which has become so suddenly popular that it threatens to rival the long-worn "sailor hat." They are so easily trimmed that the "home milliner" can easily manage them herself, and the same may be said of the small bonnets. One need only learn how the trimming is put on, and there is so little of it that the bonnet

DRESS WITH BASQUE OF BLACK SATIN OR VELVET.
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is soon made. Burnt-straw hats are very popular, and will continue to be used as late as possible in the season.

In the picture of the "dress with basque of satin or velvet," we illustrate one of the new narrow basques which are put on the edge of the round bodices, and are generally used without a band; but they can be used with one if preferred. The front of this dress is seen in the sketch with three figures, and it will be noticed that it is double-breasted and has large buttons, and a wide revers over the shoulders, the waistcoat, which shows, being of black satin also. The dress is made with three lappets on a foundation, and the whole forms a useful as well as very pretty model for a winter's gown. Each lappet is edged with a narrow jet or velvet paramoteur, as well as the revers on the shoulders. This dress would look well if made of hopsack, serge, or cloth. The seated figure, wearing the long basque jacket, shows also one of the new hats turned up in front—a fashion which is likewise followed in this season's bonnets. The standing figure at the back shows a "boat-shaped" straw hat, and the method of putting in the feathers at the side.

The "gown of crépon" is a pretty specimen of a simple dress for afternoon wear. It has a slightly full front, arranged in a novel manner, and a ruche of the crépon forms the only trimming of the skirt except a very narrow jet edging, which goes round the edge. The "child's dress" is one of the new loose, yoked, blouse-like gowns, and for the winter any of the new coloured serges would be found suitable for it. The trimming of this might be of blue velveteen, cut in bias bands about two inches wide to edge the skirt, and the yoke might be of velvet as well.

For our paper pattern for this month we have selected the long basque jacket-bodice, and in addition to this we propose to give as a separate pattern the cut paper patterns of the two basques—the short one and the full basque, which will be so much worn this winter. This last should be cut in one piece, and, if possible, of double-width material; but if not, the join should be at the back. The narrow basque is cut in two pieces. One or other of these will be found most useful in re-making and retrimming any winter gown, and they may be used either with or without a band at the waist. If made of the material of the gown, they need, perhaps, a little edge of trimming; but if of velvet or satin, none; but these materials must be repeated on the gown, either as revers or band to the bodice, or as bands on the skirt. Four yards of velvet or six yards of satin would be needed.

The basque jacket-bodice (our other paper pattern) consists of nine pieces, and will require about four yards of double-width material to make it; the basque should be lined, if possible, with silk. The brat pul on pointed shape at the waist may be left out, and the bodice left plain. It is only given to show the style of trimming generally used.

The bodice has no seam at the back, and the front is double-breasted. If preferred, this bodice may be made up only for an out-of-door mantle; but if made in serge or tweed, it is better worn as an indoor gown. Price of deep-basque bodice pattern, is; of the two basques, with deep revers added, also is; .

As the object aimed at is, not fashion, "The Lady Dressmaker" selects such patterns as are likely to be of constant use in making and remaining at home, and is careful to give new hygienic patterns for children as well as adults, so that the readers of The GIRL'S OWN PAPER may be aware of the best methods of dressing themselves. The following in hygienic undercloth are already given, and the patterns may still be had.

Combination (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (underbodice and petticoat), plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, underbodice instead of stays, pyjama or nightdress combination, an American emancipation suit and bodice, men's Pyjama, walking gaiter, dress drawers (made of the dress material, for winter use), dressing jacket, dressing gown, Canadian blanket-coat or dressing gown, double Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock, pinadores. Mantles.—Bernhardt with sling sleeves, mantle with "stole" ends, old ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloak, four-in-hand cape with three capes, Tudor cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with yoke, mantle of lace and silk.

Blouses.—Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouse with loose front, sailor blouse and collar, yoked blouse, new blouse with full front and frill.

NARROW BASQUE (Paper pattern.)

VARIETIES.

GOING TO COURT.

Elderly Relation: "Dear! dear! About her marriage already! And he seemed such a nice young man, too..."

INFLUENCE.—The essence of life is influence. The nature and degree of our influence on others is the measure of our own existence and power, intellectual or spiritual.

—Bishop Shirley.

PAYING MUSIC.

"I suppose to educate your daughter in music costs a great deal of money?"

"Yes; but I have had a good return for it."

"Indeed?"

"Yes. I've been trying to buy out my next-door neighbour at half-price for years, and could never bring it down in terms until she came home and began playing."

"When it becomes needful to explain away a religion, its constraining force is at an end."

—Charlotte Yonge.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.
Our autumn modes were so long in asserting themselves, that many people were quite worried to know what it was best to purchase. This was especially the case with reference to out-of-door garments. Indeed, nowadays that fashion proves herself such a changeable mistress, the best advice I can give to all my readers is, to reduce their wardrobes to the articles absolutely needful; to have only the gowns they want for present wear, and when purchasing mantles or jackets, to pay as small a price as is consistent with the appearance they consider it right to make in society. This advice seems particularly wise this year, when one looks at the winter jackets that were purchased last, and compare them with those that are considered the correct style this year. The sleeves and the full caps are all right perhaps, but the skinny and tight-fitting skirts, alas! are quite “out of it” as the slang expression goes! The full skirts of the early Victorian era form the prevailing characteristic of this year’s jackets, and the difficulty, or rather the impossibility of alteration is fully evident. Fortunately the shops are full of really moderately priced out-of-door garments, and so we need not mislead ourselves if we have to look out for something else. But the lesson should be taken to heart, viz., that it is better nowadays to buy cheaper articles, and to have fewer of them, so that we may keep our wardrobe up to date. As I write more especially for girls, I am sure that I am giving them the very best advice.

The revival of the long pelisse is quite a fact, and they show the latest vagary. The season’s jackets are all cut in such a manner as to fit the figure both back and front, and the remarkable fullness of the skirt is the principal change in the three-quarter jackets. Braid seems to be preferred almost to fur just now, and some of the jackets have six or seven rows of braid put on round and round the waist, and above it, the pointed or Swisshodges-shaped trimming being now less worn. The two most popular shades of colour for jackets are red or液压, and a blue like the old-fashioned “villé-green.”

Pelisses are worn also made of various colours, tan, brown, navy-blue, Robin-Hood green, and the grey one that was so much in vogue. The wide skirts reach the edge of the dress, where they fall in many folds; but round the hips they fit tightly and without any creases. They have generally a plated collar and a prominent collar, which is entirely of fur. Velvet, satin, moiré cloth, and all kinds of very thick woollen materials are worn, both for jackets and pelisses.

The restoration to favour of ermine is much to be rejoiced in, and our old friend chinchilla is also well to the fore. All kinds of dark fur are worn as well; and beaver, sable, and mink seem to be the most popular. Seal skins are more expensive this winter, and are better unemployed just now. Indeed, ever since one has read the account of the way the seals are killed, and hunted down, it has been a question of humanity to avoid the use of their fur. The imitation astrachan and beaver are wonderfully good; and so we can all have fur-trimmed garments at a more moderate price if we choose. Pairs of black astrachan make any old winter gown look nice, and are most useful to the economical. Fur caps are now worn three-fold one over the other, of different sizes, the last reaching below the elbow. They sit very full round the edge, and flat on the shoulders, most of them having a turn-over collar at the neck. Long boas, which look more like tippets or collars at the neck, are worn, and the muffins are larger than those of last year.

Tailor-made gowns are quite restored to popular favour, and report says that the feminine world means to clothe itself entirely in tweeds, cheviots, and thick cloths. Extreme plainness is the order of the day in them. Thin skirts with flat reams or brail, jackets, with waistcoats, and smaller sleeves are worn, and lines with stitching are, perhaps, more used than anything else.

The width of all skirts remains the same, and most of them clear the ground and sit quite tight round the hips. The ever-comfortable blouses remains quite as much in fashion, and the chief idea of the autumn was a cloth or cheviot skirt and a silk blouse. The bird’s-eye dots in black on some colour, Oriental palm pattern, or tartans, are the
three most approved Tartan blouses, are much liked in Paris, and with them stockings are worn to match the tartan. Some are of the cluny, but the most are what are called "fancy tartans," especially in Paris. There also, there exists a perfect craze for red dresses, which are generally made with straps and trimmed with all kinds of fancy bodices and silk passementerie. I hope that none of my readers will be induced to have their three skirts made up on a lining in order to save material, for this is a form of economy which always betrays itself and the wearer when exposed to the first high wind. The souwark is more popular than ever, and appears in all kinds of conjunctions. The newest coats have souwarks added to long, full basques. A dress of this kind is seen on the nearest figure in the picture marked "Dress of hop-sacking and silk braid," the souwark front and full waistcoat being well shown. The "accordion-kilted dress" is a very charming model for a young girl, and can be carried out for evening dresses, made of crepe, or "run's veiling." Such gowns are very useful for winter evenings, and can be inexpensively made. The "two winter jackets" show one of the full-skirted jackets and a loose-fronted jacket trimmed in the front with ermine, and made of crimson-coloured velvet. I find that the draped overskirt, as well as that which is straight-cut, and the polonaise, are quite the newest introductions in the way of dress. The last-named has been altogether out of fashion for some years past, but must be welcomed again with pleasure, for it is, unquestionably, one of the most becoming and really useful of our recurrent styles. I should not be surprised to find that the polonaise came in by the early part of the year and formed one of our prettiest fashions for the spring. Veletstein is much used for these polonaises and overskirts, and is mixed with all descriptions of woolens. The mixture of colours is as remarkable as ever in dress and in millinery, the chief mixture being those of brown and pink, pink and green, pale blue and brown, green and hollies, blue and orange, yellow and pink, gold and green, brown and chamois, red and black, green and black, beaver colour and light green or blue. The trimming of all colours with black is most beautiful, while white, is very prevalent. Indeed, I think that black and white may almost be considered as a uniform, so much is it seen.

More ribbon is more usual for millinery than satin, and all kinds of coloured felt hats and bonnets are seen which seem to be invariably trimmed with black; in reverse, black is trimmed with colours of the brightest kind. Ostrich tips are worn; but we are delighted to see the return to fashion of the long and handsome plumes. Some hats of a modified "boat shape" have a long feather on each side, united in front by a bow or rosette of velvet, and the ends of the feathers are long enough to hang over the hat. The craze for rosettes is as great as ever; they are to be seen everywhere, on gowns and mantles, as well as on hats and bonnets. As a finish to a belt they must be used with care, as otherwise they would make the figure look clumsy. Very handsome buckles and clasps are worn with belts, and I hear that necklaces are in again, and that amber and all other descriptions of beads are to enjoy a season of favour. It has always seemed a pity that the necklace should have been dismissed, as it is very becoming, and has the sanction and prestige of great antiquity to recommend it as well. For young girls it is an extremely suitable ornament, and is the first ornament worn by a child.

The boat shape in hats has become almost extinct, except in felt travelling hats; and the newest thing is an excellent imitation of the large beaver travelling hats of the last century, with a high crown and a curved brim. Feathers make them look more feminine, and they are admirably well-suited to the present Greek style of hair-dressing, which is so detested by the hair-dressers in France that they propose making a determined stand against it, as being detrimental to the beauty of French women, and last, but not least, ruinous to the profession of hair-dressers.

In Paris, the white-lace veil with a border and sprays of lace work on it seems all the rage, and very unbecoming it is. Veils of plain white net are less so, but both are injurious to the sight.

Some very good makes of black cotton stockings, at a moderate price, have made their appearance in the shops; some are ribbed, and others are prettily cabled. They are to be recommended for winter wear for those persons who find the woolen ones too hot and thick.

The pattern selected for this month's issue is that of a circular cloak with epaulets on the shoulders and a stand-up collar. This pattern is a most useful one, and of such a simple nature that it can be made by anyone. The amount of rough fleecy cloth required is about four yards. If a cape is preferred instead of the epauletts, half a yard more is needed. The cape will be found outlined on the pattern. The edge is furnished with a galloon, and sewn round by machine. If liked, a facing of coloured satin can be used for the fronts, and a yard and a half will be enough. The braid, already formed in
Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouse with long sleeves, sailor blouse and collar, yoked blouse, new blouse with full front and frill. 

Jackets and Bodices.—Plain dress bodice for child, well-made material, tailor-made bodice, corseted bodice with full sleeves and yoke, jacket bodice and waistcoat, Breton jacket and waistcoat, jacket for out or indoor wear. Serenity jacket, new blouse bodice, bodice fastened under the arm, long basqued jacket, jacket with revers, summer out-of-door jacket, bathing dress, gymnasium suit, princess dress, tea-gown, chemise, flannelette for underwear, umbrella skirt, four-gored skirt, jacket bodice with coat tails, whole-backed jacket plain or with Watteau pleat, bodice with full front, cape with three tiers, princess robe, under petticoat, four sleeve patterns, bodice with new back, Russian blouse, new skirt in two breaths, Empire gown with princess under-dress, spring jacket bodice, full bodice and frill, Serenity jacket, new circular skirt, double skirt, short three-quarter cape, cross-over blouse, flounced skirt.

A Loyal Deception.

Miss Barley lived in the top room of the lodging-house. As she was advanced in years and found the stairs a trial to her breathing, she only went out when it was absolutely necessary, and preferred receiving visits to paying them. She was an independent little person, her independence being the result of pride, poverty, and "better days." The better days were in the far background, and perhaps they had not been so very much better after all, but in virtue of them Miss Barley was careful about the social position of her associates, and felt it incumbent upon her to present offerings to the church at every festival. At Easter she would have considered herself a defaulter had she withheld her sixpence from the vicar, and when the harvest decorations were being carried on Miss Barley invariably walked up the church with a bundle of carrots and a large loaf.

In appearance she was not wholly prepossessing. She was small and meagre, wore cork-screw curls, had a drab complexion, and queer deep-set eyes which were of no special colour but had a perennial twinkle. Her dress had never varied within the memory of the oldest parishioner. In the street she always wore a grey waterproof and a black bonnet which knew no shape, but which approximated to a box, inasmuch as it covered her ears and the back of her head. In winter she supplemented the waterproof by a red cross藤, and in all seasons she carried an umbrella which had stoutly resisted wind and rain and sun, until it was literally worn to the ribs.

Miss Barley had just been down one flight to the tap. She returned slowly with a pail of water. When she reached her room she set down the pail in a corner, and dropped a lump of charcoal into it. Miss Barley had her theories. She believed in ventilation and was particular as to the water she drank, as was necessary in a teetotaller, and she attributed the preservation of some rather inferior teeth to the fact that for twenty years she had been a vegetarian.

After a brief rest she set herself to the work of laying her table for the midday meal. She cleaned away the few odds and ends which she had been using, and spread on it a spotless cloth. Then she went to the cupboard, fetched knives and forks and two tumblers, also a complete set of dressings. She laid the table very elaborately, even giving a furtive polish to the little plated cruet-stand which was among her proudest possessions. It looked as if she had entertained an honoured guest, yet the only sign of culinary preparation was a solitary saucepan without a cover, in which some lentils were boiling.

When all was ready Miss Barley surveyed the scene with evident satisfaction, then she washed her hands in the tin basin by her bedside, said a lengthy grace, and taking a slice of dry bread and some of the bread and cheese she had purchased two days back, drew her chair up to the fire and began to munch with the zest which only hunger can give. She was a solitary meal. When there came a knock at her door, and before she had swallowed her mouthful of bread so as to say "Come in, articulatedly, there's nothing for you," the figure of a young woman of five or six and twenty, with a coarse handsome face and dark auburn hair, appeared at the door. Miss Barley was up to greet her, setting the plate on the table.

"Why, Lydia," she said.

"Yes, it's me," said the visitor, regardless of grammar.

"I was tired of being alone, so I came up here."

"Sit down, my dear," said Miss Barley.

The woman called Lydia took the chair by the fire which Miss Barley occupied. Her large eyes wandered to the table.

"Expecting visitors?" she asked.

"No," said Miss Barley rather feebly.

"Well, that looks like a spread," remarked Lydia.

"Yes, I fancy it does," assented Miss Barley as if the notion pleased her.

There was a momentary silence. Lydia was expecting to be offered some dinner, but Miss Barley, who was looking wistfully towards her bread and cheese, did not show any symptoms of proferring hospitality.

"Well," said Lydia presently.

"Well," repeated Miss Barley.

"Praps I'm inconvenienceing you," suggested Lydia.

"Oh, no, at all," said Miss Barley; "I told you I was always glad to see you when you liked to look in; praps you won't mind me just finishing up this snack."

"Oh, do, by all means," said Lydia. "In fact, I—I shouldn't mind a bit myself."

Miss Barley, who had eagerly recommenced her meal, blushed a dull red. For a minute or two she ate silently and the bread tasted bitter to her palate. Then she said: "I'm sorry to say, Lydia Gates, there—there ain't no more in the house."

At this Lydia flushed. "I'm sorry I asked. But—you see"—and she glanced at the table.

Miss Barley had a little struggle with herself. Mrs. Gates was the wife of a railway man, and lived downstairs. At one occasion she had shown Miss Barley some hospitality and was always friendly towards her. The two women were both of them the guardian's wife was sociable and—Miss Barley amused her. The latter wanted to explain to Lydia the contradiction between appearances and reality; she could not bear to be thought mean, seeing that she somewhat prided herself on her generosity, and yet, when she glanced at the face of the young woman opposite to her, a certain delicacy forbade her justifying herself. She felt that Lydia would not understand.

There was an awkward silence of a few
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A MORNING GREETING.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

In these days when cycling is so much favoured by women, warm discussions are the order of the day as to the best costume to be worn for the purpose. So long as the tricycle was the fashion we were not much troubled; but now that women have followed the American example, and adopted the many-fangled bicycle, the subject of dress becomes predominant, and very difficult it is to deal with it. Opinions differ in England in regard to the divided skirt, the Bloomer costume, and the adoption of knickerbockers, and there is something to be said against all of them. When in Paris lately, I saw the French bicycle costume, and I fancy the wearer of it would have been mobbed in London, as it seems to consist of Turkish trousers and a jacket, and was evidently a novelty, even in Paris, as I saw people staring and laughing very much. I should think myself that a well-made divided skirt, and a gored tunic-like over-skirt, would be the most suitable costume; but I should recommend a riding-habit bodice, as far nearer than a blouse, and a cape for bad weather. If the over-skirt were carefully cut, I think this costume would not attract any unpleasant remark; but I certainly think women bicyclists are out of place in the streets of London, or any large town; and the more unobtrusive and quiet the dress adopted by them the better, in any locality.

The most fashionable materials now worn are those of woollen diagonal. This style of weaving is to be found in serge, cheviot-clout, homespun, and tweed, and is also very generally produced in two colours. These are so deftly blended together, that the result is not gaudy, nor even too bright, but simply consists of a neutral tone with a "shot" of the two bright hues in it. Cloaks and jackets are made of the dress-material, and are nearly all trimmed with bands of fur, and as a rule have high collars, and one shoulder-cap of moderate dimensions. I have never, I think, seen outside jackets and capes so cheap as they are this winter; they are singularly tasteful in their shapes, and the trimmings of black braid and narrow fur bands prevent even the lowest in price from being vulgar, or poor-looking. A long cloak is a most useful wrap for everyone, and they are now obtainable at a wonderfully cheap rate, either lined with fur, or not.

The use of the skirt and three-quarter jacket has introduced a great variety of waistscoats, which become needful for the increased cold weather, and when the much-worn blouse has ceased to be warm enough. Some of the new ones are of the old-fashioned brown corduroy, and are made with backs and sleeves of black linen, which add greatly to their warmth in wear, and make them fit better under the jacket as well. Waistcoats are also made of crépe de chine, of velvet, and of the material of the dress.

Moirés seems to be going to have a season of its own, and will be used for all kinds of things for which it was never thought of years ago. Out-of-door jackets, and long coats, as well as capes (all trimmed with fur), will be made of it; and some of the specimens made this year in England of broché moiré are quite perfect in colouring and texture. The same may be said of the shot moiré, in which all the hues of the rainbow appear, mingled with such dexterity that they lose their separate, and not gaudy. Black or coloured satin is still the material most worn for evening; but the effort to bring it in as a material for jackets and other out-of-door coverings, did not prove very successful.

Although it was prophesied that we should have nothing but the huge "granny muff" in fur this winter, so far these prophets have been mistaken, for the small fancy muff are quite as much worn, and show little difference in size, except that they are a little larger, perhaps, than they were; the trimmings are rather more obvious, and the whole effect is somewhat larger. These little fancy muff are the simplest things to make at home; they require a firm foundation to make them on—a piece of lining such as is used for lining bodices—which must be ten inches wide, and from half a yard to twenty inches long; on this the padding—partly of hessian, and partly of wadding—is laid as evenly as possible, and tacked at intervals. The lining consists of half a yard of black silk; this is made up separately with a hem at each end, and a running above it in which an elastic can be placed. The wadded portion is then joined together, and the lining put inside and sewn at the ends, and thus the foundation of the muff is laid, and on it is built any superstructure that you may please—velvet or satin, with rolls of either, and drapings of lace. I find that the best thing is, to see a muff you fancy, and then to make one like it, or else strike out a new line from that model, or one founded on it.

I hear on all sides that we are to wear the long shoulder-seams again, which we so happily got rid of years ago, and it is possible that some very suave people may adopt them; but I fancy the general utility of women will not like anything so unbecoming. The future for basques of all kinds is grea, for the long and short, single, double, and even triple, are all liked, and are all very smart-looking. As a means of bringing our old dresses up to date they are immensely useful, and a cheap woollen-backed black satin will be found an excellent thing of which to make them. If more can be spent on the revival, moiré is the newest and most handsome trimming. These basques are generally sewn on a band separate from the skirt, and as they are cut in a rounded shape, they have here any fulness at the bust, and sit very full indeed at the lower edge. They can be made in a contrasting colour to the dress, providing that some of the same colour be used to trim the bodice as well.

It is wonderful how easy our dress is made for us, now that we can go into any good
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

The small bonnets called either "Puritan," or "buy a bonnet," are just beginning to be seen, and no doubt will, in time, supersede the butterfly bonnets, which have adorned but not covered our heads since the autumn.

In "Christmas Toys," the dress worn by the child represents one of the newest now used for little girls. It is made with a yoke, and forms a charming garment, made of velvet, for afternoons and all kinds of best occasions. A small "Senorita jacket" is worn by the figure at the right, and this has two flaps at the top, four buttons, and ones over each arm. The new method of outlining the front breadth of the skirt is also shown, a fashion which is on the increase, as it adds height to the figure, and is a valuable style for short or stout people.

The paper pattern selected for the present month is that of a pair of knickerbockers for winter wear, made either of the material of the gown, or of Serge, and lined with flannel. They are intended to be worn with one petticoat over them, and to supersede the use of the flannel petticoat, at least, for winter's wear, for they are far more of a protection from cold. They will require two yards of double serge to make them, and will cost but little to make, far less than a flannel petticoat, in fact. The Serge should not be less than forty inches in width, and the flaps, which are about three inches in depth, and are taken from the sides, the edges being the sevedge of the Serge. The pattern consists of three pieces—the leg of the knickerbockers, the band for the leg, which is to be below the knee, and the flaps. The top may be lined all round, and may be buttoned on the top of the usual, or worn underneath them as preferred—this last being the better way. I think, both for the petticoats or the knickerbockers. If lined, the top should be faced with a binder of stout linen or cotton to strengthen them round the waist; but great care should be taken to avoid frizziness; and to press all the seams quite flat with a hot iron. A very thick serge should not be selected, and some people prefer a thin cloth with a cotton lining.

As the object aimed at is use, not fashion, "The Lady Dressmaker's" select such patterns as are likely to be found in making and remaking at home, and is careful to give new hygienic patterns for children as well as adults, so that the readers of The Girl's Own Paper may be aware of the best methods of dressing themselves. The following in hygienic underclothing have already been given, and the patterns may still be had.

Combination (drawers and chemise), Princess petticoat and petticoat, plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, under-bodice instead of stays, pyjama or tights combination, American cravat and petticoat, and bodice instead of stays, men's pyjamas, walking jacket, dress drawers (made of the dress material, for winter use), dressing jacket, dressing gown, Canadian blanket-coat or dressing coat. Children.—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock, pinamas. Mantle.—Bernhardt with sling sleeves, mote with "stole" ends, old ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloak, four-in-hand cape with three capes, Tudor cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with vole, mafe of lace and silk. Blouses.—Norfolk blous with pleats, Norfolk blous with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blous with loose front, sailor blous and collar, yoked bloushe, new blous with ruff and frill. "Jackets and Bodices." Plain dress bodice for either cotton or woolen material, tailor-made bodice, corsets bodice with pleats and yoke, jacket and waistcoat, Bremont jacket and waistcoat, jacket for out or indoor wear, Senorita jacket, seamless bodice, bodice fastened under the arm, long beaded jacket, jacket with revers, summer-out-door jacket, bathing dress, gymnastic suit, princess dress, tea gown, chemelote combination for winter underwear, umbrella skirt, four-gored skirt, jacket bodice with coat tails, whole-backed jacket plain or with Watteau pleat, bodice with full front, cape with three tiers, princess robe, under petticoat, four sleeve patterns, bodice with new back, Russian blous, new skir in two breadths, Empire gown with princess underdress, spring jacket bodice, full bodice, and frill, Senorita jacket, new circular skirt, double skirt, short three-quarter cape, cross-over blous, Bounced skirt.

All paper patterns are of medium size, viz., thirty-six inches round the chest, with no turnings allowed, and only one size is prepared for sale. They may be had of "The Lady Dressmaker," care of Mr. H. G. Poole, 11, 7, and 9, and 11, 9, each; if ordered in place, 6d. extra. The addresses should be fully given. Postal notes should be crossed. Patterns already issued may always be obtained.

A VANISHED HAND.

By SARAH Doudney, Author of "Michaelmas Daisy," etc.

CHAPTER XIII.

IN PORTMAN SQUARE.

"And quite alone I never felt,
I knew that Thou wert near,
A silence tingling in the room,
A strangely pleasant fear."

Faber.

ARNOld WAYNE took his way to Portman Square, thinking about Elsa as he went along. If those two could have looked into each other's hearts just then, they would speedily have come to an understanding.

When he went up the steps of the great house and entered the flower-scented hall, he was in a dreamy mood. And when he found himself in Mrs. Verdon's artistically-furnished drawing-room, he had a queer notion that only his phantom self was here and his real self had remained in the little room in All Saints' Street.

His hostess looked very slender and tall and fair in her mauve silk dress. Her satiny hair, wound round her small head, conveyed the idea that it rebound would enshroud her like Lady Godiva's, in a veil. The rich glowing colours of the furniture and hangings formed themselves into a harmonious background for the figure. Mrs. Tell was quietly observing the newcomer, and silently deciding that the chances were in his favour. She had not the faintest doubt about his intention when the man who came here proposed to her sister-in-law, and of course he would do the same.

Everybody allowed that nothing could be more agreeable than Mrs. Verdon's position and surroundings. The house exactly suited Mrs. Tell, Katherine, whom she liked in her cool way, was not difficult to live with; any change was to be dreaded. But there was always the fear that change would come, and she had an instinctive dread of this Mr. Wayne.

"And so you have been calling on Mr. Verdon?" said Mrs. Verdon as they sat at dinner. "She must come and see me and Jaime. Has she many friends?"

"A great many," replied Arnold, who did not like to mention them.

"I dare say I have met her somewhere," Mrs. Verdon went on. "I have either met her or seen her face in a
GIRLS' ATTIRE:

THE

NEWEST

AND BEST.

NEW JACKET WITH BEADED YOKE—ARRANGEMENT IN LACE AND RIBBON FOR EVENING WEAR.

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GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

If we may draw a conclusion from the many manufacturers competing for the patronage of the general public, and the enormous number of patterns they send out every season, we should say that we ought to be the best dressed of nations, and at the cheapest possible rate. The prices are something wonderful, and the quality of the materials excellent, while they are thoroughly "up to date" in the style of their manufacture. Alas, however, our troubles do not end here, for the making-up of the material is surrounded by difficulty, and we shall have to pay almost as much for that as we have done already for the stuff. To make up a plain, very plain gown, the price seems to vary between the print dress of the maid-servant, which may cost from 5s. to 7s. 6d., and the £2 2s., the usual charge of the first-class dressmaker, without any trimmings or extras being provided; 10s. to 15s. seems an ordinary price in town, the first being thought very inexpensive indeed. From 21s. to 23s. is the price demanded in our large shops for making the bodice to a ready-made skirt, as I believe, and thus it will be seen that if our dress material be cheap, the price of labour is not so; and if we happen to be poor, unless we can make up our own dress, we are badly off. However, this is the day of paper-patterns, and we are so much helped in this way that we ought to be able to manage the making of a plain gown for ourselves. Then, too, there has recently arisen a large trade in ready-made petticoats and blouses, and it is wonderful what we can obtain this year at a very moderate price. These ready-made gowns are very well made, and fashionable in cut, and as they are made in good, sensible sizes, everyone should be suited.

The paper-patterns and the ready-made gowns are the high lights of the subject; but, to my mind, with so much demand amongst us women for work and wages, there are great openings for a reform in the trade of dressmakers, and many more women might fit themselves for this opening than do enter it at the present time. In this way two classes would be benefited, the manufacturers and the women themselves, who would be provided then with a purely feminine occupation at which they might earn a sufficient living, even while working at a lower price than obtains at present. The demand for a good dressmaker is heard every day, and apparently the supply is very limited.

Although crinoline was quite worn out by the bold face put on by the British public, still Dame Fashion inclines to a certain amount of stiffness in the dress-skirt, and achieves this in several ways. First, by having rolls of horse-hair laid in the hems of our gowns, and next by making use of a lining more or less stiff. It is called canvas, and is put all round the hem to a depth of six or eight inches, and up to about three-quarters of a yard at the back breadth. In Paris, oris is used, which is a veritable horse-hair material, and the other day, being in the company of a fashionable dame, I was much astonished by the heat given off, which sounded exactly as if she had one of the old very stiffly starched petticoats under it, as it positively crackled with the least movement. I was much exercised over it, and wondered what this material was which had been used for the lining of her frock. A day or two afterwards my curiosity was satisfied by the discovery that a dress which I was inspecting in one of our large shops crackled in the same way; and I soon found out that the lining was a very highly-glazed linen, black in colour, and of such a stiff nature that it really made a sound like a stiffened petticoat. The cut of the new skirts conduces to their setting out round the lower edge, as they are tightened round the front, and hips, at the top, and flow outwards slightly from the knee. Almost all our walking dresses are short, to clear the ground, and I think every woman needs a reminder about the neatness of her feet. Shoes and boots are not expensive, and if we could discard the fashion in pointed
toes our poor feet might have a chance. But it is rare, under the present régime, to see a pretty foot, or a well-shod one, and the extreme length of the shoes caused by the pointed toes is fatal to their beauty of shape.

In the spring I have no doubt that we shall see skirts with more or less drapery; in fact, we see panels and tabliers, and in one well-known window a dress made with paniers may be seen to-day. Many of the more expensive dresses for day-wear are raised at one side, to show a petticoat below it, or have a hem at the edge of a contrasting colour, which has a very pretty effect. The double and triple skirts are still seen, and velvet pliages are now used to finish them off. They suit very tall people admirably, and so do the full basques that we have illustrated in our sketches, which are now more worn than ever. The most popular bodies are made with waistbands, whether basqued or not; but many of these, when made with basques, are pointed both at back and front. The basque and the sleeves are often made alike, while the bodice itself is of quite a different material and colour. Velvet—"shet mairt," or plain—seems to be a usual material for bodices, and for those designed for evening wear. The opening in front is either a wide round shape, or a square one; the V shape is quite gone out, and the square is cut to slant inwards at the sides, and to be smaller at the bottom than at the top.

The long pelisse shape is the most fashionable one of all. It is quite long, and very nearly reaches the edge of the gown, and the general shape of it is shown in the sketch of "An Afternoon Talk," and the dress of the young girl shows how "Mesdizne de Soc," or lace, are put on as the trimming of a bodice. Young girls generally adapt the low style of Greek costume, as shown in this picture, the hair being slightly curled in front, and the parting in the centre plainly shown.

The dressing of the hair is much higher, and the shape resembles a knob sticking out behind. It is dressed by very stylish people over a cage, or wire shape, which forms a support, and helps those who have not much hair, so as to show the amount they have to better advantage. In fact, the effect aimed at is lightness, and the curls cannot be very fluffy. The "Royal-ties" all affect the pointed shape of the fringe in front; but for

ordinary people this style is very difficult to keep in order.

The newest bonnet shape is the "Dutch," which looks like a close nurse's cap. There are several varieties of it, especially called the "Puritan," "Sister of Mercy," and "Holbein." The "Nuremberg boss" is much used on them, and is a round raised boss, or button of beads. On some of the Dutch bonnets two of these are placed at the top in front, on each side, and a large Alsatian bow at the back forming the entire trimming. The Puritan bonnets look best in black; when in colour they generally have black trimmings.

In our next sketch we show a cloth dress with velvet trimmings, epaulettes, pointed yoke-piece, and sleeves, and a pointed front. This is a very pretty pattern for a best gown, or it is a very good method of doing up an old one. The young girl with her back turned wears a very elegant "Senorita" jacket, with two falls at the shoulders. Being made of velvet it will be found to add just exactly the degree of heat requisite to a pretty brightly-lined silk blouse for the evening.

The black jacket with the full sleeves, and yoke, and elbow sleeves of jetted material is one of the prettiest of the winter models. It may be made in either plain or figured cloth, matelasse cloth, or velvet. In fact, more velvet is used for mantles and jackets this year than has been the case for years past. The pretty little bertha or arrangement in lace and

AN AFTERNOON TALK.
velvet ribbon exhibits a very useful and sensible idea for turning a low bodice into a high one, or for putting on when it is desirable to smarten up an ordinary afternoon gown and make it fit for evening wear. It is easily made, and not expensive as to the materials.

For our paper pattern of this month we have selected two of the most fashionable waistcoats for wearing under jacket bodices or open coats. All kinds of double and single-breasted waistcoats are to be found in the shops at present; but if we be sufficiently clever with our fingers to manufacture them at home, we can save almost half the money required to purchase them, for, like most fashionable trifles, they are expensive. The double-breasted waistcoat is made of Tattersall, tweed, hopsack, cashmere and coloured silks. The sleeves and back are of the lining, which is generally of black linen, and it is in five pieces, viz., front, sleeve, collar and two back pieces.

"The Lady Dressmaker" selects such patterns as are likely to be ordered and used in making, and re-making at home; and is careful to give new hygienic patterns for children as well as adults, so that the readers of THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER may be aware of the best methods of dressing themselves. The following in hygienic underclothing have already been given, and the patterns may still be had.

Combination (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (under-bodice and petticoat), plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, under-bodice instead of stays, pyjama or nightdress combination, American emancipation suit and bodice instead of stays, men's pyjamas, walking gaiter, dress drawers (made of the dress material for winter use), dressing jacket, dress apron, Canadian blanket, dressing gown.

**Children.**—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock picture. **Monogram.**—Bernhardt with silk sleeves, mantle with "stole" ends, old ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloak, four-in-hand cape with three capes, Tudor cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with yoke, mantle of lace and silk. **Blouses.**—Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouse with loose front, sailor blouse and collar, yoked blouse, new blouse with full front and frill. **Jackets and Bodices.**—Plain dress bodice for either cotton or woolen material, tailor-made bodice, corset bodice with full sleeves and yoke, jacket bodice and waistcoat, Breton jacket and waistcoat, jacket for out or indoor wear, Seniorita jacket, sleeveless bodice, bodice fastened under the arm, long-sleeved jacket, jacket with revers, summer out-of-door jacket, bathing dress, gymnastic suit, princess dress, tea gown, chemisette combination for winter under-wear, unlined jacket, four-year-old jacket, jacket in coat tails, whole-backed jacket plain or with Watteau pleat, bodice with full front, cape with three tiers, princess robe, under-petticoat, four sleeve patterns, bodice with new back, Russian blouse, new shirt in two breadths, Empire gown with princess under-dress, spring jacket bodice, full bodice and frill, Seniorita jacket, new circular skirt, double skirt, short three-quarter cape, cross-over blouse, and boned skirt.

**Paper patterns of medium size, viz., thirty-five inches round the chest, with no turnings allowed, and only one size is prepared for sale. They may be had of "The Lady Dressmaker," care of Mr. H. G. Davis, 11, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

**Mermaidens.**

By SARAH TYTLER, Author of "A Young Oxford Maid," etc.

**CHAPTER XVII.**

"Why, it is—no, it cannot be—impossible—a thousand times impossible—yes, indeed, it is Hyacinthe Beauvoir," we all called out, in different tones of immense relief and satisfaction.

I suppose I shall give an indication that young girls are always a little silly when I record that, on second thoughts, I was considerably abashed and disconcerted. I was sure it was an old fad hastening to meet and greet us, yet I could not help feeling put out by his looking so handsome and smart. He was no longer in his uniform, which was one reason why we did not know him, at the first glance, in his green coat and kerseymere trousers. He had grown much taller since we saw him last, so that his head was now above Tom's, as well as far above Perry's. He had increased in breadth, too, and looked perfectly robust. His olive face was clear cut as ever. His friendly brown eyes had still that look of Jane's in them which, if we had ever resisted it would have been sufficient to melt our obstinacy at this date. He had a dark moustache, silken as yet, helping to hide the sensitiveness of his mouth.

My lawful thought was that coming in this guise he should find me an utter scarecrow, as how could it be otherwise when I was in the same gown soiled with sea-water, and torn with scrambling, which I had worn when we left the Serpentine. My bonnet was battered with wind and wet, and burnt by the sun. Susie had sewed the crown and brim together more than once, but at this moment I was painfully conscious they were held together by a rusty hair-pin, while the bonnet-strings were in fringes.

The face within the bonnet was as brown and weather-beaten as the bonnet itself, and it was worn to skin and bone, so that I felt as if the mouth grinned and the eyes were sunk in their sockets, as mouth and eyes are in the face of a skull. I could have cried with weakness and mortified pride as I turned aside my head; but I do not know that I was equally distressed when I caught a glimpse of Sally, and recognised that her appearance was as dilapidated as mine.

I do know, however, that there was nothing in the world to hurt me in what I could not help, nothing save the tenderest respect and regard, pity so reverent in its depth that I ought not to have shrunk from it, in Hyacinthe's gaze as it rested on me. I was ashamed of my folly presently, and forgot it all when he asked hesitatingly, with the slight foreign intonation with which he spoke English.

"And where is Miss Jane?"

When we told him she was gone from sorrow and suffering, he bent his head in acquiescence, but his eyes filled for a second. We loved him the better for it, because we knew how much true friendship and sympathy there had been between him in his dark days, which had speedily passed away, and Jane in the burden of
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By THE LADY DRESSMAKER.

The controversy about the best dress to be worn by women and girls while using the tricycle or the bicycle, still goes on, and has even got into the daily newspapers. The organ of the cyclists seems to be in favour of the "rational costume," which is neither more nor less than a coat and trousers, slightly disguised with a rather longer skirt to the former than is generally worn. This is the dress that I mentioned before as having been adopted in Paris; but I do not think it will become popular in England, though I do think the problem might be solved in some way by adding a longer skirt still to the coat, which will be safe, and yet supply the place of a petticoat in some measure. The bicycle seems to be so much increasing in popularity, that I think some dress might be found to please all parties, and the long-skirted coat would have a better appearance than the short ones, which look dreadful! In America they advocate a knickerbocker suit and gaiters, much on the lines of the "moo and shooting suit" which we have already.

In the way of new fashions or old ones revived, I notice a great leaning towards braiding, particularly on out-of-door jackets. Tan-coloured jackets are braided at the waist to resemble a Swiss belt, or corset, and the sleeves are also braided to represent a deep cuff. But we have seen no attempt to braid round the full skirts, nor even to apply braid to the capes. Trimmings of braid laid flat are quite as popular as ever.

Sleeves seem almost as big as ever; but they have changed their shape, and are wider in appearance on the shoulders. They are set into the armholes with small pleats, not gathers. As far as the elbow they are tight-fitting, and it seems likely that the Spring fashions will show us the wide shoulder effects of the "Victorian style," and that all the other fashions of that period will also rule. We make no approach, however, to having our waist raised up under our arms, and the huge bonnets are conspicuous by their absence. The newest bonnets are perfectly flat at the top of the head, with the trimmings placed quite at the back, in the form of high boxes of velvet or satin, the front having either a low ruche, or three tiny rosettes placed one in the front and the others on each side. Hats seem smaller, I fancy, and low crowns remain popular if used large. The long ostrich feather has resumed its popularity as a trimming for them. I see that a correspondent of a well-known evening paper remarks that the fashion of wearing ostrich feathers, and the consequent demand for them, has been a boon to man, for it has opened a lucrative industry and made the ostrich ten times more valuable, besides multiplying it to an enormous degree beyond its natural amount. So it seems that there are several ways of looking at the ostrich feathers, and that this fashion does not cause such grave distress and suffering as other and less justifiable fashions in which birds are concerned.

The newest style in bonnets is quite invisible from a front view, and the fronts are made to sit down on the front of the hair quite flatly. These flat foundations are very generally made of velvet, handsomely embroidered with jet, or jewelled galons, gold and black sequins being also much used, and lace. For instance, I have seen a pale blue velvet trimmed with white lace, and decorated with black and gold sequins. Pale pink, green,
and mauve velvets are also in great favour for the tops of bonnets; but jet retains after all the largest amount of favour. Hats are much smaller in the brim, and are higher in the crown, while some of the newest ones are boat-shaped, or have the sides rolled upwards.

The hair at the back is generally twisted in a coil, and looks smooth and tidy; while the front is curled or coiffed; but the rough style has quite gone out, and false fringes seem to have disappeared, at least, those that look false. White locks are in immense favour, and I am told that ladies with prematurely grey hair (especially if it have turned unequally in a "pepper-and-salt" style) often have it bleached to a pure white by chemical means.

Perhaps you will be glad to know the most recent fashions in writing-paper. The newest idea is to write on pale green paper with an ink of darker green; or, later still, to choose a shade of violet for the paper, and a deep purple for the ink. Paper of blush pink is also used, and reddish ink employed with it. The initials, monogram, or crest, are in the darker hue of whatever colour is chosen. The use or "wallet envelope" is more popular than the square, and square paper is more so than the long; while no end of comments have been lately made on the decrease, almost to the vanishing point, of the black line on mourning paper; that used by the very nearest relations being what would have been selected by the most distant some years ago. Crape almost seems to be disappearing from use as a skirt trimming, even for deep (not widows') mourning. The skirt is made quite plainly, and the bodice alone shows the crape trimmings. The bonnet usually has some crape, but not much; and the out-of-door jacket is simply of plain cloth, but the effect is good, and the saving of money much to be recommended, when one remembers what hard times we have had in the past. Besides, the manufacture of crape is so highly inimical to life.

There is no doubt that, with the spring fashions, we shall see the return to favour of trimmed skirts, over-skirts draped, and the pointed "peplum." The latter is to be seen already applied to some of the numberless bodices for evening wear which are found in our best shops. The "peplum" is made in silk gauze, sometimes "accordion-pleated," or very thin silk.

The chief change in bodices is, that they are more fantastic than ever; and pleats and darts seem to have been entirely replaced by gathers or flat outside folds; the under-bodice being fitted tightly, while the outside material is strained over it, so as to be apparently moulded to the figure. It requires a good dressmaker to make a well-fitting bodice in these days, and the wonder really is to see so many well-made bodices. The picture entitled "A new Spring Bodice and Cloak," shows one of the prettiest models of a spring gown, the bodice and the front of the bodice being most becoming in their cut, and the trimming passementerie indicating the waist, and coming to a blunt point at the back and front. The cape or cloak has one of the new flat collars, and the material is a shell casimere, somewhat rough and hairy, and the long far, or rather hair, is known as "Thibet" in most houses.

A French travelling cloak is an improvement on our English ulster, and the edge is trimmed with a shawl fringe, where it is shown round the neck, and down the fronts. The material is an extremely thick reversible cloth, which requires no lining whatever. Of French origin also is the skirt trimmed at regular intervals with "baby-ribbon," the material of the gown being a fine crêpe. The bodice has a basque, made on the bias, and very full at the back, and the baby-ribbon may be replaced by narrow and satin ribbon, if preferred; the same being used to trim the bodice or basque and placed in flat lines across the front of the bodice from arm to arm, three rows, reaching to the neck, the same being used for the back.

There seems a tendency to return to the wide sashes, tied in large bows at the back, and made of piece-silk. They are usually of a contrasting colour to the dress. Very wide scarves too, knotted in large bows at the front of the neck, form one of the early Spring arrivals in Paris, and are reported to be very becoming.

One of the fashions of the present winter
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

muffs having been a little "out of it," the
gloves have had an "innings." One reason
for the abolition of the muff seems to have
been the entire diselimination of society in
general to adopt the huge "grannie," which
there has been such a very decided a tempt to
introduce.
The paper pattern selected for the month is
that of the new gored-skirt, which has made
its appearance this winter, since the very full
"bell" fell from its position. This new "bell"
fits closely to the figure in front, and on the
hips; the fulness at the back being put into large
gathers. It will take about four yards and a
half of double-width material to cut it out.
There are three pieces in the pattern—front,
one side-piece, and half of back. This will,
probably, remain in fashion during the Spring;
as, so far as one can now see, it has been
generally liked, and adopted by all our best
houses in the West End.

As the object aimed at is use, not fashion, "The Lady Dress-
maker" selects such patterns as are
likely to be of constant use in
making and remaking at home, and
is careful to give new hygienic pat-
terns for children as well as adults,
so that the readers of THE GIRL'S
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best methods of dressing them-
selves. The following in hygienic
underclothing have already been
given, and the patterns may still be had.

Combination (drawers and chem-
ise), princess petticot (under-
bodice and petticoat), plain gored
princess chemise, divided skirt,
under-bodice instead of stays, py-
jama or night-dress combination,
American emancipation suit and
bodice instead of stays, men's
pyjamas, walking gaiter, dress
drawers (made of the dress ma-
terial, for winter use), dressing
jacket, dressing gown, Canadian
blanket-coat or dressing gown.

Children.—Little Lord Fannyboy
suit, child's combination, child's
princess frock, pianofores. Manilas.

—Bernhardt with sling sleeves,
mantle with "stole" ends, old
ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl
clout, four-in-hand cape with three
capes, Tudor cape, yoked cape,
mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with
yoke, mantle of lace and silk.

Blouses.—Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse
with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouse with
loose front, sailor blouse and collar, yoked
blouse, new blouse with full front and full.

NEW BELL SKIRT. (Paper pattern.)

Jackets and Bodices.—Plain dress bodice for
either cotton or woollen material, tailor-made
bodice, corseted bodice with full sleeves and
yoke, jacket bodice and waistcoat, Breton
jacket and waistcoat, jacket for out or in-door
wear, Señorita jacket, seamless bodice, bodice
fastened under the arm, long basque jacket,
jacket with revers, summer out-of-door jacket,
bathing dress, gymnastic suit, princess dress,
tea gown, chemisette combination for winter
underwear, umbrella skirt, four-gored skirt,
jacket bodice with coat tails, whole-hacket
jacket plain or with Watteau pleat, bodice with
full front, cape with three tiers, princess robe,
under petticoat, four sleeve patterns, brassie
with new back, Russian blouse, new skirt in
two breadths, Empire gown with princess under-
dress, spring jacket bodice, full bodice and
frill, Señorita jacket, new circular skirt, double
skirt, short three-quarter cape, cross-over
blouse, flounced skirt.

All paper patterns are of medium size, 8½,
three-six inches round the chest, with no
stickings allowed, and only one size is prepared
for sale. They may be had of "The Lady
Dressmaker," care of Mr. H. G. Davis, 75,
Ladbroke Hill, E.C., price 1s. each; if tasked
in place, 6d. extra. The addresses should be
fully given. Postal notes should be crossed.
Patterns already issued may always be ob-
tained.

GREAT THINGS AND SMALL.

THE SUNSHINE FLOODING ALL THE SKIES
With radiance paints the smallest flower;
When bare the land all thirsty lies;
The very cloths drink in the shower;
The dews that summer nights distil
Each blade retouch, each petal still.

The pulsing of the mighty sea
Uplifts the little fisher boat;
The winds that sweep the grassy lea
A withered leaf will pluck and float;
And impulse as from Heaven may raise
The weakest voice to notes of praise.

We may not reach the higher art,
And yet may taste the poet life,
And in its passion have a part,
To prove its bliss or share its strife;
The world's strong pulse throbs through us all,
And one life holdeth great and small.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

DUTCH BONNET AND SPRING CAPE, PINAFORE DRESS OF CLOTH AND VELVET.
The spring novelties are pretty well out, and we know in London, even by the end of February, very nearly in what and after what fashion we are going to be clothed during the coming season. This year, in the early days of the month, the shop windows were already filled with straw hats of all shapes, sizes, and hues, mostly in coarse fancy straws, sun-burnt straws remaining greatly in favour, their trimmings of black velvet being far more becoming than last year’s decorations of watered ribbon. The “Dutch bonnet” seems likely to be popular, and the toque is evidently come to stay with us for some time. The home milliners are very fortunate, for what with the jet bonnet-shapes, straw ones, and the easily-made toque, they can provide themselves with head-gear at a moderate price.

So far as the general shape and form of things they are not much changed save for the extra leaning towards Directoire fashions, which is evidenced by the huge bows made of very wide ribbon which are placed everywhere on the bonnet, hat, and gown, the extra width of the overs on the bodices and jackets, and the turned-back and very deep gauntlet cuffs. Lastly but most important we have two distinctly Directoire hats, that with the turned-up front and the lace, 

TEA JACKET, SERGE GOWN WITH ROWS OF BRAID.
which was a little worn during the winter, and
looks as if it would be more worn this spring.
The huge ties, cravats, and scarves made of
muslin, lace, and silk, with ends trimmed
with deep lace, also of the "Directoire" style,
and as the weather gets warmer they will form
a very pretty addition to our dress. The
fashion of swinging the neck in lace has also
returned, and the ends are fastened with
a small brooch at one side. This is a becoming
change from our heretofore quite severe collars,
and will protect the neck from the sun and
scorching heat of summer.

There has been, also, a revival of lace capes
and fichus of all kinds, even to that worn by
poor Marie Antoinette in Paul Delaroche's
picture, which crosses in front and fastens at
the hips, or behind. These are sometimes
made with two deep frills of lace or of flounces
of muslin and lace, and silk gauze, both of
black and white, makes a more dressy fichu.

So far as colours are concerned, I think
violet, in all its hues, may be considered the
fashionable colour, and the flower itself is
extraordinarily popular, and nearly all the
women one meets have violets either as a tiny
"button-hole," or the imitation flower in either
hats or bonnets. I have seen bunches of white
violets used on black "moiré" bonnets, or black
"moiré" bonnets, presenting a charming appearance, and
looking lovely as well as novel. They have no
green leaves with them when worn in this
manner, but the violets otherwise have gener-
ally ivy leaves united with them, or, more rarely, their own round leaves or else those of
mallow, which much resemble them. Shaded
bonnies, too, are very popular, and are some-
times mixed with violets; and two bonnets
recently shown at a very first-class milliner's
shop show how these flowers are mingled with
colour. The first was a Dutch bonnet of
green velvet, the trimming being bows of
pansy-coloured velvet and violets. The second
was a flat bonnet of pale blue, with a trimming
of violets, made as a small wreath, no green
leaves, or very few, being shown. The "ajourette"
and "pinse" were of fine jet. A good deal of
steel is to be seen in millinery, and much
white lace will probably be used. Jet pins,
with wonderful and eccentric heads, will be
very popular, I think jet is more used than ever,
on both bonnets and dresses, and nothing is
more becoming.

This year I fancy we shall see more silk
petticoats worn than ever, and as most women
rarely wear more than one, it is lined with
thin flannel, even for summer. Black silk, of
all kinds, "moiré" and watered, is used; and a
lace flounce, beaded with jet and lined with
white, is the most fashionable way of making.
If silk flounces be used they are pinked at the
edges, and not very full. There is nothing to
prevent any girl, with a modest allowance,
having a silk petticoat, if she can make it her-
sel£, for silks are now so cheap; and if she
has been in the habit of wearing white ones,
she will have its price in the washing alone.

So far as our dress-skirts are concerned, all
the fullness in the new ones falls to the back,
the folds looking like the pipes of an organ,
and some of the newest skirts are lined
throughout with a thin walking, laid on
between the flanging and the skirt, and slightly
tapped into shape at the hems. The
draped skirts have, I think, come to stay, and we shall, no doubt, in about a month's time,
begin to adopt the new foundation
sheet with the draped overskirt for our
summer apparel very gladly. Meanwhile we
have a new fluted skirt; the folds at the
back, as shown in our paper pattern illus-
trations, are in flutes, and are sometimes lined
with thin walking, as I have described. But
crinoline linings, or any stiff materials are no
longer used for lining skirts, and it seems that
in Paris they are striving to introduce a stiffened
under-skin, which will throw out the dresses
at the foot. A glance at any French fashion-
book will show you that there is something
stiff underneath to produce the "bell" effect.

We illustrate the "Dutch bonnet," as will
be seen; also the new "pinafore dress," which
is so pretty for young girls' wear, and so suit-
able to their slight figures. In the severe gown
with rows of braid will be found a pretty
model for a girl's spring gown, which she can
wear without mantle or jacket when the
weather permits. This shape is slightly newer
than the waistcoat and jacket bodice, but there is
not a doubt that our main styles for this
year will be those tw'o which I have mentioned,
and the bodice with basque, which we illus-
trate, as well in the "Dress trimmed with
braiding." These basques are excellent
additions to a half-worn gown, to bring it up
to date, and when they and the sleeves as well
are made of either "moiré" or watered silk, the
effect is excellent. Blue gowns with black
sleeves and basques have an excellent effect,
and the same may be said of all the shades of
violet, tan, or chestnut, green, and reddish-
brown.

There are a great many Zouave and Spanish
jackets of the Bolero style to be seen this
spring, most of them made with sleeves, to be
worn with blouses or waistcoats, and the ever-
favourite blouson is as much to the fore as usual,
but the "crossover" appears no more. The
new ones have basques, and are generally
finished with sleeves or frills round the
shoulders, and the use of lace insertion occurs
as great as ever. Black and white are both seen.

In materials I find hopsack, "pique," "serge,
and homespun, and Ondule silks are the
fashionable fabrics of the spring. In all of
them there are slight changes from those of
last year, but nothing very extraordinary nor
striking.

In connection with what I have mentioned
about dress for women who cycle, I notice
that, last month, the Ladies' Cyclist Associ-
ation organised an exhibition of "rational
dress" at London at the new Queen's Hall; let
us hope it will lead to something being adopted
which will be at once comfortable and femi-
nine-looking enough to satisfy everyone.

The difference between the "robes" and
"bradelles" of this year seems to be that they are
unstiffened, and fall gracefully over the shoulders. Three frills at the top of the sleeve is a very favourite style of making them; but the sleeve is wider than it was, and not nearly so stiff-looking. In France, long sleeves seem to have been quite adapted for evening dress; and we have followed the same idea here; but there is a great feeling for berthes, and capes, which increase the size of the shoulders, and which, I think, are far from being pretty or long boss all of them add length to our figures this season, and the skirt that well clears the ground will be as much worn as it has been during the winter. In the way of shoes for the winter season, I find several of the new models with flaps and buckles, which will be becoming to the foot; and there is a new shoe and boot, with square toes, called the "Bective," which will be more sensible and comfortable than the dreadful pointed ends we have been almost compelled to wear for so long.

Our new styles will permit of their taking to them again who like so lace flounces stored away. Two of them may be arranged on a dress-skirt, the one at the edge, headed by either a velvet or satin rustoue, or a jet trimming, and the other at the knee finished in the same manner. They are not very full. Another way of putting them on is to make a cluster of pleats, or gathers, at intervals of about twelve inches round the skirt. This, if done rightly, is very pretty. The centre pleat is slightly shortened in the middle.

For our paper pattern this month we have selected the "fluted skirt," and have also prepared the "dimpled skirt" for sale, though we have not illustrated it; this takes two forms. It is fitted to each pin on each side, and it can be opened on one side and the front raised up to show the foundation under the front breadth of the skirt. There are seven breadths to the first named. Each skirt will take from six and a half to seven yards of double-width material, and the first will require a lining of stiffening, either linen or crinoline, to hold apart the pinches in their places.

As the object aimed at is use, not fashion, "The Lady Dressmaker" selects such patterns as are likely to be of constant use in making and re-making at home; and is careful to give new hygienic patterns for children as well as adults, so that the readers of The Girl's Own Paper be aware of the best methods of dressing themselves. The following in hygienic underclothing have already been given, and the patterns may still be had.

Combination (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (under-bodice and petticoat), plain good princess chemise, divided skirt, washable bodice instead of stays, pyjamas or night dress combination, American emancipation suit and bodice instead of stays, men's pyjamas, walking garter, dress drawers made of the stoutest material, for winter wear, dressing jacket, dressing gown, Canadian blanket-coat or dressing gown. Children.—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock pinnafores. Dress.—Berkshires with striped sleeves, mantle with" stole" ends, old ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloak, four-in-hand cape with three capes, lader cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with yoke, mantle of lace and silk. Blouses.—Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouse with loose front, sailor blouse and collar, yoked blouse, new blouse with front and frill. Jackets and Bodices.—Plain dress bodice for either cotton or woolen material, tailor-made bodice, corset bodice with full sleeves and yoke, jacket bodice and waistcoat, Béret jacket and waistcoat, jacket for out or indoor wear. Senorita jacket, seamless bodice, bodice fastened under the arm, long basque jacket, jacket with revers, summer out-of-door jacket, bathing dress, gymnastic suit, princess dress, tea jacket, jacket on each arm, it can be opened on one side and the front raised up to show the foundation under the front breadth of the skirt. There are seven breadths to the first named. Each skirt will take from six and a half to seven yards of double-width material, and the first will require a lining of stiffening, either linen or crinoline, to hold apart the pinches in their places.

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"LIKE A WORM I' THE BUD."

By ANNE BEALE, Author of "The Queen o' the May," etc.

CHAPTER II.
"C'EST LE PREMIER PAS QUI COURT."
"A CHILD MAY HAVE TOO MUCH OF HIS MOTHER'S BLESSING."

The following day being Sunday, the scattered dwellers among the hills went early in the morning to chapel. There were not many church-going people in that quarter, for more reasons than one. The principal reason was, the distance of the parish church and the nearness of the Wesleyan chapel. It was much easier for a sermon-loving people to go three times a day to a chapel close at hand than once a day to the church three or four miles off.

The little chapel at the five cross roads on the top of the mountain was crowded with people on that Sunday morning. There was Sam and all his family, with the exception of Shanno and the two babies. She usually took her own baby to chapel, but she could not venture cumbered with two. She was not, she said, used to them as was Pal the smith, who had had twins twice, and always took them both to chapel. She, therefore, lost this opportunity of retaining her own especial bit of news, and the glorious chance fell to Sam and Billo who made the most of it.

The minister heard it before he entered the chapel, and he blessed the occasion "by naming it with unction in his sermon. But his discourse had never seemed so long before. All were anxious to get out of chapel to hear the particulars of so unparalleled an adventure.

When the congregation left the chapel, they gathered round Sam and his family, to make further inquiries concerning his discovery. Amongst them was Mr. Vaughan, the best in his place, the pillar of "the tabernacle," and Sam's much feared and respected master. With him were his daughters, the sedate Mariana, and the beautiful Margaret, who listened eagerly to the gossip, but did not join in it.

Mr. Vaughan was a man who farmed his own estate, employed a great many people, paid them honestly if not liberally, and kept them very much in awe of himself and his picy. Everybody said that Vaughan, Tymynydd, was the most respectable, upright, trustworthy man in the country, but nobody cordially liked him.

He was of middle height, erect carriage, dress strictly plain but neat, florid complexion, and altogether well-to-do appearance. But his clear, grey, penetrating eyes were cold; his straight, thin lips compressed as if they had never learnt to smile, and his high forehead was unfurrowed by a wrinkle of pain, grief, or thought. The only movement in his face was when he lit the Lanthorn walking-stick, told of a man who knew
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

During the month of March, if anyone had had to make a summary of the reigning fashions, I am sure they would have compressed them into three things—bustles, bows, violets, and moiré silks. A little later we begin to see that although we have certain changes to chronicle, there are but few alterations in the main lines of dress. We are still using homespuns, serges, hopsackings and crepans, quite as much as ever, though of course the manufacturer has improved the methods of making them, as well as his designs and ideas, and the colouring has fallen into other lines. Black and white, and white trimmings for neutral colours, stone, fawn, beige, and grey are all the rage, and white cloth and moiré are used as reverses for spring dresses. In millinery we find golden-hued straw, dark oranges, pink, and violet, as the chief favourites, light blue and a light pink being also much seen. Altogether the season promises to be very gay and bright, so far as our dresses are concerned, and I hope the weather will be to match.

The new skirts are still large, and extended at the back; but the fronts and sides are tight-fitting. In fact, they are fitted just as bodices are by the first-class tailors. The cut round the feet is still a little distended, but not much, and the back is distinguished by its regular folds of the organ-pipe kind. The draping used for skirts just now is very simple in its way. They may be a little raised in front, at the side, from the hem, or they may have a shawl-point overskirt of one deep point at the front and one at the back. Some have an opening over a panel at one side, the sides being lined and used as reverses.

Tailor-made gowns have the sleeves rather fuller, and bodices made by the best tailors have no centre seam and no side pieces at the back. The coat bodices are either open, or closed with two buttons at the waist, and the buskets are shorter than they
were last year, and much fuller. But the coat bodice and the waistcoat did not, for a moment, lose their popularity, and there will be more seen than ever now that they are turned out wholesale by the trade at popular prices.

Bespaces are more than ever to the fore. Some of them meet in front, some are open at the back, and others are long. They are cut all in one with the bodice, where moiré and other silks are concerned. But I notice that in stout tweeds they appear circular and frilled and have a seam at the waist, the bodice being, as I have said, nearly seamless. Bodices of a different material to the skirt are still worn, but they are now more used for richer materials, with a moiré skirt, a velvet bodice, or else brocaded bodice and a plain silk skirt. The refers to bodices are as wide as ever, and epaulettes are in high favour. They are held down over the shoulders by ribbons, or jetted passementerie, and hang down in long ends.

Three and four-inch black moiré ribbons are used for sashes and girdles. One method of putting these on is illustrated in our picture of a "moiré blouse," with ribbon girdle, the ribbon being caught at the half, in the centre of the bodice in front, and taken to the back is crossed there and brought round, and tied at the side in a long loop bow. This moiré bodice is of the same design as our paper pattern, and shows the new method of trimming the sleeves with two rows of insertion or ribbon. The seated figure shows one of the new coat-bodices with a French moiré waistcoat and revers to the jacket, the material being a black serge. It will be seen at once that it is shorter than they were made last year, and the fronts are plain, the back being fuller in the skirts.

The moiré bodice and new blouse are both amongst the very latest introductions. The blouse is made of a narrow black and white Pekin silk, the black stripes being in satin. It is tucked in very tiny tucks at the waist, into the shape of a pointed yoke as shown in the sketch, and a belt underneath fits it tightly to the figure; the belt is made either of wide elastic or of woolen stockingette. This is a very elegant model, and may be easily copied. The moiré bodice is also quite simple. It is tight-fitting, and slashed at the sides. These and the open front show a fall of lace, while over the full sleeves there is a lace sleeve. This will be found a charming model for a summer dress. There is nothing more fashionable at the present time than these moiré bodices in all shapes, both for out-of-doors and for indoor wear. The paper pattern selected for this month is a new blouse, and the original was made in moiré trimmed with cream, or rather, ficiel lace, which is now more popularly known as "butter colour."

In the sketch of one of the wide cravats, accompanied by a sailor-hat shape, with a wide buckle in front, is represented the latest style of hair-dressing, showing a parting down to the forehead in front. If this way of doing the hair should come back to us, it will alter, in a great degree, our hats and bonnets; and the softening fringe which has done so much for some plain faces will be much missed.

The large bows are still worn on both bonnets and hats; but on the first-named they are put on very much lower, and look broader at the back, while they extend right and left to the same width. The new fancy straw bonnets are of all hues, pinks, blues, greens, and golden tints being all represented; they seem to be oftenest trimmed with black or a vividly contrasting colour. Thus on a green bonnet violet velvet and yellow flowers may be seen, and indeed the mixture of colours would be dreadful if it were not so very well done. The wonderful admixture of black roses and other flowers, or large buds of black violates with green stalks, or green flowers and black leaves, seen on the unusual is eccentric, but not pretty. Yet it seems to mix with the bright bonnets and the winter black strings very well. The bonnets are all smaller in size, though there is an evident determination to increase them. In some of the West End shops they are showing the veritable ancient "poke"-shaped bonnet of our great-grandmothers, and I fancy we shall see later on some of the finer directories which were not accepted last year. Hats are neither large nor very small. They are of medium size and are much trimmed with soft lace, feathers, and moiré ribbon. The sailor hat of this year is very pretty, and no girl can do better than have one in the burnished straw colour; and trim it with a band and a handsome bow and ends of moiré ribbon. These hats are sold at as low a price as 1s. 6d. in the shops untrimmed, and a cheap and pretty headgear is thus soon obtained, and this year to see what numbers of girls are in the shops purchasing the materials for their hats and bonnets; and I was assured by an attendant in a West-end shop, that hats were untrimmed than trimmed, and that they were in consequence always willing to give advice on the question of trimmings if they were purchased there.

The new veils are black only. Those dreadful ones with white, or cream-colour, mixed in with the black, have gone out of fashion. It seems that the cavalier shoe, with a flap, is to be the favourite this year, and patent leather is made up with the plain kid, but not so much by itself as it was. Embroidered stockings are very much in the vogue, and they are pretty, and not too "loud." I hear that black petticoats are to be more used than white ones, and that the colour of the stockings worn should match the colour of the petticoat.

Hair-dressing is not much changed. There is still a coil at the back, and it projects a good deal, the centre tress being twisted together in a little bow to make it stand out beyond the coil, which goes round it. The front is done in light curls. Heavy fringes have gone out, or else the hair is parted in the centre, and where it is trimmed, if in moiré, but it can be quite well used without trimming. It will take four and a half yards of moiré or three and a half yards of cotton; so those to whom money is an object,
but who like to be in the fashion, this bodice, which can be easily made at home, will be welcome. The cape can also be made at home very easily. The amount of material required is two yards of good velvet for the lower cape, and one yard and a half of muslin for the upper cape and collar, which are lined with velvet. The lining will need four yards either of silk, satinette, Cleopatra lining, or a good sateen. The upper cape is lined with muslin, to give it a slight stiffness, and the whole may be made without any trimming except a handsome bow at the neck, which will take two yards and three-quarters of ribbon. The price of each pattern is 1s.; if tacked, 6d. extra.

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NEW CAPE. (Paper pattern.)

Competition (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (under-bodice and petticoat), plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, under-bodice instead of stays, pyjama or night-dress combination, American cotton or silk suit and bodice instead of stays, men's pyjamas, walking gaiter, dress drawers (made of the dress material, for winter use), dressing gown, Canadian blanket coat or dressing gown. Children.—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock pinafore. Mantle.—Bernhardt with sling sleeves, mantle with "stole" ends, old ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloak, four-in-hand cape with three capes, Tudor cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with yoke, mantle of lace and silk. Blouse.—Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse with yoke and plaits, Garibaldi blouse with loose front, sailor blouse and collar, yoked blouse, new coat, cape and frill. Jackets and Bodices.—Plain dress bodice for either cotton or woolen material, tailor-made bodice, corsedet bodice with full sleeves and yoke, jacket bodice, new coat, coat tails, whole-backed jacket plain or with Watteau pleat, bodice with full front, cape with three tiers, princess robe, under petticoat, four sleeve patterns, bodice with new look, Russian blouse, new skirt in two breadth, Empire gown with princess under-

dress, spring jacket bodice, full bodice and frill, Senorita jacket, new circular skirt, double skirt, short three-quarter cape, cross-over blouse, bowed skirt.

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QUEEN MAB'S MISTAKES.

CHAP. VI.

ABEL had no letter from Mrs. Allington on Christmas Day, but on the following morning an unusually lengthy one came, accompanied by a registered packet containing a costly article of jewellery. The first part of the letter was a mass of affectionate expressions and wishes for her darling Mab's happiness, and lamentations respecting her own loneliness, which made the girl exclaim with delight, "Auntie misses me more than ever. I am so glad!"

But the second sheet brought a change to Mabel's tone. "How cruel! How dreadfully cruel! Aunt Maud has sent me this piece of finery as people give a child a bit of sugar to take away the taste of a bitter dose. I will never wear it;" and the angry girl dashed the case, containing a diamond bracelet, to the ground, then threw herself on her couch and wept bitterly.

Truly the letter brought Queen Mab a cruel disappointment. It shall tell its own tale.

"You can hardly realise, dear child, what my loneliness has been, seeing that you are surrounded by kind relatives who anticipate every want. Of late, I have found it insupportable. Happily I met an old friend at Cannes—Colonel Ross. You must have heard me mention Gordon Ross, who when he was a penniless lieutenant of twenty-five wanted to marry me. I was twenty then and had no money independent of my father, so of course no one would hear of our marrying. I liked poor Gordon very much, but I knew I was not fit to be a poor man's wife and for doing without all sorts of things that I was used to. So we parted, and a couple of years later I married General Allington, who was much older than I, but proved the best of husbands. I can never be grateful enough for all the comforts I possess through him."

"When Gordon Ross and I met again after all these years, it seemed to both of us quite a providence. He is a widower and has retired from the Army. His only daughter married some time ago, so he was as lonely as I. There is no question of money now. He inherited some, his wife left him more. What I do not understand is how my old friend was able to marry our rejected cousin. Does it not seem to you the most natural thing possible that the old affection should revive, for the Colonel is only fifty, and I am forty-five."

"Our marriage will take place on the day I post this to you, so, darling Mabel, when you receive this it will be from, "Your ever loving aunt, "MAUD ROSS."

"P.S.—I thought it better not to enter into particulars beforehand, lest you should make a trouble of my marriage and your Christmas. I am sure you will rejoice in my happiness when you think the matter calmly over. You will always be a welcome visitor (Gordon wishes to embrace this), and you know, darling, I have not hoped to keep you long had you returned to me. Some one would soon have wished to run away with you, and naturally you would not have wished to remain all your life, or I should say mine, for the sake of your old auntie. As it is, the new bond will last 'until death us do part,' and you will find in Colonel Ross a new and very kind uncle."

Poor Queen Mab! The letter had brought shipwreck to all her bright hopes. The old gay life with her aunt could never be resumed. Colonel Ross might be all very well, but for the future his will would be law, and ever-loving aunt Maud would be contented with any decision which did not interfere with her own comfort. The newly-wedded pair were quite young enough to enjoy Society life together, and Mrs. Ross would find a more congenial companion in the husband nearly her own age, than she had done in the old general who had been so good and indulgent, but was more like a father than a husband, being above thirty years her senior.

Mabel's feelings may be better imagined than described. How could she bear to tell the news? She who had openly confessed that she was counting days until she could rejoin her aunt, and did not think it worth while to show respect or consideration in the meanwhile for any of those by whom she was now surrounded. The situation was terribly humiliating, and Mabel felt as if she would like to hide herself from everyone. She would do it for to-day at any rate, and accordingly she shut herself into her room and declined to leave it when summoned to luncheon. She could plead with truth that she had a splitting headache, for the violent weeping and fierce mental excitement through which she had passed had produced their usual effects.

Elise came with loving sympathy and offers of service, but found Mabel in bed with the blinds down and her face turned from the light. To all she said, her cousin replied that she only wanted rest to make her right again, and she would take nothing until the afternoon, when Stubbins or one of the maids might bring her a cup of tea. When Elise offered to remain in the pretty sitting-room, within call, Mabel positively refused her permission.

"I cannot sleep if I think anyone is watching and waiting on my account. Go downstairs, dear, and tell your mother I have had similar headaches, after extra late hours, often enough in London. I shall be as much in evidence and as troubled as ever at breakfast-time to-morrow. See," she continued, "aunt Maud has sent me a Christmas present.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.
Our summer cape and lace-trimmed bodice.
Girls' Attire: The Newest and Best.

I might, perhaps, be a relief to some of my girl-readers if they heard what seems, from an article I have just seen on the subject, to be the extreme limit of the size of waist considered proper for women and girls. Of course there are many who would not reach it, as they would be naturally of a slighter build. It is not, it seems, at all the thing to lace, or to appear even to lace, tightly, and no waist should be smaller than twenty-four inches. While thirty-eight round the bust is not too large for this time of year, but so the right symmetrical proportion, and forty inches is given as the correct hip-measure with the other measurements. Thus it will be seen that the modern ideas of beauty are of a very solid nature, and, of course, as long as our girls continue their healthy exercises—jawn-tennis, golf, and the revived croquet, which has quite come into favour in the country again—we shall expect to find firm, well-knit, and muscular figures.

The popularity of the jacket-and-skirt costumes is unabated, and blouses are quite as great favourites also. Side by side with them we find the short full, or gained basques will be more used than they were last year, the newest ones being plainer in front and fuller at the back, and, I think, shorter, the double ones standing up round the waist, like ruffles. Several new versions of the bolero, senorita, and the "Eton jacket" are appearing, all of which are intended to make the bodices of our gowns look smarter, as well as add to their warmth. Velvet is still the most fashionable material, or the ever-fascinating moiré, and no doubt during the summer we shall constantly see this last often. They are often made also with a belted basque added to them, trimmed in the same manner; and thus a skirt or blouse is made into quite a dressy concern. There is a great passion for ribbons also, and they are tied at the back as well as in front in large bows; or else there are two looped ends, one on each side of the front, which reach to foot of the skirt.

The attempts made to introduce the draped skirt cannot be said to be very successful; and I see no chance whatever for a draped overskirt, even with lace, or the thinnest guaze. The only form that seems to meet with any popularity is that which we have illustrated already; in which a few inches of the side of the skirt are caught up to show a foundation of moiré or silk of a contrasting colour, and the fullness is arranged in small box-pleats on the hips; or perhaps, only on one side, the sides being sometimes fully open to the waist. Perhaps, as the summer comes on we may see black lace and guazes with coloured skirts; and these, indeed, I have already seen at some of our best dressmakers, and think them possible; but they are not quite the draped skirt. The general width for the newest walking skirts is about four yards and a half. The backs are often put into three or four large pleats, which gives the fashionable fluted effect; while the fronts are as plain as ever. Even the pleats in front are put into the foundations only, the over-part being cut to fit, by shaping at the waist; or else they are stretched over quite plainly. Where this cannot be accomplished, then a few tiny gathers are carefully distributed round, which make no show, when the dress-bodice is worn. If the skirt be put into four single box-pleats for instance, at the back, each pleat would measure an inch and a half across the top, or even less. All the skirts are lined, and some of the satin and new moiré skirts are quite padded at the bottom, as we nicknamed throughout with what woven in that way so that it may fall in full folds to the edge. Two yards and a half lengths of this are sold for the garniture of a gown. Nothing exceeds the passion for lace this year, but especially for the "string" or "butter-coloured" varieties, which are demanded for every black gown, be it silk, moiré, or crêpon only.

The pattern of our summer's cape is extremely stylish, and will be found available for the capes that require trimming with lace for the summer. The front of the lace "Bolero" will be found in our sketch of "The New Sleeve and Pointed Basque," and in this is also seen the pretty new "fourteenth century sleeve," which will be delightful for the thin gowns of the present season, and which are made of thin materials. These pointed basques, which are full and puffy over the hips, are very fashionable and stylish, and also may be made available for remodelling gowns. In fact, with a new basque and new sleeves, a gown may now be made quite modern, with but small expense. To jackets of last year, also, it is not difficult to add such moiré revers as are illustrated in the centre figure, and thus render it quite up to date.

Amongst the most beautiful materials for the coming season of hot weather are the Gown of French Cambric.
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

JACKET FOR DRILL, LINEN, UNLINED.

(Paper pattern.)

lovely French cambric with tiny floral designs, for underclothing, and which form such stylish materials for summer gowns. We show this month an ideal of one which may be made-up and will probably look better for the morning without any lace save that on the yoked-bodice, as they are prettier when untrimmed. The new coloured linens must also be mentioned, they are so pretty and are so much improved from those of last year. They are made up principally as skirts or jackets, and we have selected for this month as our paper pattern a jacket suitable for them, or for the white drills or "Galatians," which are now in favour once more. They are made without linings, and so are very simple and quite within the powers of the home-dressmaker to produce.

The only thing to observe is that the edges of the seams must be bound with silk ribbon of a very narrow width. To make theinside look tailor-made, whisking or overcasting the seams will not answer, even in the use of cotton materials. A machine is the best method of working for these jackets, as the seams are thereby made invisible, and they can then be far more easily pressed; and everything of the kind must be pressed to make the joinings look at all well.

A fresh attempt is being made to write-up, and to introduce once more as a fashionable fabric, alpaca, or mohair as the French seem to call it. I do not know whether it will be successful, but I have heard of another old friend of other days, as having quite "come to the fore" in New York, and that is "French merino;" and there is much white "pique" to be seen in Paris, but it is more used there for trimmings, I fancy, than for gowns.

In the way of millinery, the fashionable flowers are the geranium, and the mignonette, with clover as an accompaniment. The imitation diamond, or "old paste" buckles, are very much used for both sashes, waist-bands, hats, and small necklaces of either velvet or face, the bright button-hole being well in this position, with a low-necked gown; while for high-necked ones, it is put at the back, in the centre of a bow of ribbon. In either case, it looks very well indeed, and brightens up a gown.

Our new pattern takes about five yards of thirty-inch material, and is in six pieces, viz., front, and front side-pieces; back, and back side-piece; revers, and sleeves. It is simple, and easy to make, and should be unlined.

As the object aimed at is use, not fashion, "The Lady Dressmaker" believes each such patterns as are likely to be of constant use in making and re-making at home; and is care ful to give new hygienic patterns for children as well as adults, so that the readers of The Girl's Own Paper may be aware of the best methods of dressing themselves. The following in hygienic underclothing have already been given, and the patterns may still be had.

Combination (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (under-bodice and petticoat), plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, under-bodice instead of stays, pyjama or night-dress combination, American coquettish suit and bodice instead of stays, men's pyjamas, walking gaiter, dress drawers (made of the cotton stuff for winter use), dressing jacket, dressing gown, Canadian blanket-coat or dressing gown. // Children.—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock jacket, plain fichu,\r

THE WARD'S OF ST. MARGARET'S.

By SISTER JOAN.

CHAPTER XIV.

CONSTANCE went thoughtfully back to her ward; but when she saw the cheerful faces of those who had just thoroughly enjoyed their tea and were now preparing for the evening's fun, she felt she must enter into it and not damp their joy.

The tree, which had been the kind gift of some of the lady Visitors, was in the board-room, a large spacious room where numbers of the patients could be comfortably accommodated. Of course there were many who were unable to leave their beds, some in the medical ward who felt far too ill to enjoy anything about the festivities, and were unable to think of much beyond their ailments. Yet even these looked pleased and brightened up for a few moments when later on in the evening one of the doctors or nurses brought round their share of the spoil in the shape of some useful article of clothing, pipes, tobacco, books, writing materials, etc., something worth having in fact for each one, and gave them with a pleasant word of sympathy or a wish that next Christmas it might be more enjoyable. "Oh, won't that just do for my old woman, said one aged man as he unfolded a comfortable woollen shawl; "just the very thing I would have liked!" or, "Oh, dear me, said one young woman, "anyone might have known what I wanted!" as she opened a little parcel containing several yards of bright warm material and a little case with needles and cottons. "I do believe," she said, almost with tears in her eyes, "that I'll just have enough to make two frocks out of it, one for 'em each, and here I've been fretting that they couldn't have some." It was not of course everyone who received presents just to their liking, but both care and trouble had been taken in their selection, and the sisters had been asked to find out as far as was possible what would be most useful or acceptable.

It was a pretty sight to see the numbers of expectant faces all so bright and cheery-looking, in spite of the fact that pain or sickness had been in one form or other the lot of each.

At length the lights were lowered, and a curtain which had hidden the tree from view was pulled aside. What a sight it looked laden with all sorts of lovely things and lit with coloured lights almost to the top! A circle of probationers in their neat uniform stood around it, and just as the patients were about to raise a shout of applause the following words rang out:

"See amid the winter snow!" Every voice was hushed until the end, when a bright red light shone from behind, lighting up the scene and the applause was long and loud.

Then came the distributing of the gifts, which would have proved a very onerous task had there not been many hands to help, and monohands—"red-handed" with stringing and arranging. Oh, how the children's faces gleamed at the treasures they received, balls, pictures, books, etc., and of course dresses. One little fair-haired beauty of about two years old, with lovely dark eyes and long dark lashes and the finest and pinkest of complexion, was actually choky-keene with the joy of receiving a baby doll dressed in long clothes. She gazed at it for one moment almost breathlessly, then without a glance at the giver or a thought of thanks stretched
GIRLS’ ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

In addition to the usual private views in May, we have had several drawing-rooms, and the much-talked-of wedding of the Home Secretary, at which were gathered a perfect array of celebrated people. The dress part of it is what concerns us here, and there were several things which I must mention. The first was that the bride's dress, of cream-coloured satin, was made very plainly with a train, high bodice, and sleeves below the elbow with two puffs. There was some beautiful Point d'Angle lace, used as a flounce in front and on the bodice, but very little. The veil was a large square unhemmed one of tulle, which nearly reached to the hem in front of the gown and was of the same length at the back; a very tiny wreath of orange-blossoms was placed at the top of the head—rather at the back—and the whole was in good taste and great simplicity. The bride also carried no bouquet, but in place of it, a large-sized prayer-book, which looked well worn, and which I was told was old favourite. Both bride and bridegroom read the service steadily through, from beginning to end. The ten little bridesmaids wore cream-coloured satin "empire frocks" with white hats, and carried pink rose bouquets. The prettiest new gowns to be seen were all short in the skirt and short in the sleeves, with
long gloves reaching up to join the sleeves at the elbow. More hats than bonnets were to be seen, and the chief colour worn was grey, of a beautiful steelly shade.

I give in the sketch of the two young girls sitting in a garden, called "Yoked cambric gown," and the "Anne of Austria collar," three of the newest features in our dress of to-day. The first of all is the pointed lace collar, called the "Anne of Austria," which is made of quite thick lace in either white or black, and which sometimes has long pointed cuffs to match it, these being turned upwards; and I daresay this cuff will be raised to the elbow if the fancy for three-quarter-length sleeves should increase. You may see the fashion in any picture of this Queen, who was the wife of Henry IV, and the mother of Louis XIV, of France. The long square buckle is also shown on this figure, and the other one of the becoming and pretty transparent hats of tulle or net, or sometimes of open work fancy straw, or lace, either black or white. So far as millinery is concerned, we are promised this season white hats and bonnets; and one can only hope that we shall have weather to match. The wide-brimmed hats, which generally are known by the name of "picture hats," are very pretty this year, as they are tastefully made; but, unhappily, the crowns have been made smaller, and they do not look so picturesque as when they were made an important feature. Every one of the newest hats are of thin materials or straw; and of this latter we have a wide selection in Tuscany, Panama, chip, rice, fancy plaits, and coarse straws dyed in different colours of the most vivid hues—bright pink, green, orange, and a pale blue. These are trimmed with a violent contrast, such as green with heliotrope, orange with pink, and pink with blue or orange. All these sound ugly, but they are sometimes even becoming to young faces, with plenty of nicely dressed hair.

Hat ribbons are very wide, and the bows are set up on edge. Shot moire, chantilly ribbon, and moire with the reverse of satin, are the chief kinds used. Wings and flowers are more used than ostrich feathers, and accordi- on-plated chiffon is much seen as a trimming more in fact than lace. The old mushroom-shaped hat is revived, and is made in bright-lined straw, with a crown of transparent lace. The fullness of black flowers still continues, but the newest have coloured stems; in other kinds of flowers the rose seems to me to lead the way in all colours, with the pink polyanthus, white, and cherry-red clover are very popular, and so are honey-suckle, cowslips, oleanders, azaleas, and mimosa. Geranium in vivid colours and elder flowers are also new introductions, and so are watercolours, and very natural shades of light and dark green.

The new bonnets are very wide across the head, and very narrow from back to front, and very long behind the ears. The newest feature seems to lie in the fancifully-shaped edges they present. Many of them have no crown, and some have transparent ones with floral brims. Black jet, straw, or moire bonnets are very often trimmed with white tulle rosettes or fan-shaped pieces, which makes a pretty mixture. The strings are now generally made of inch-wide black moire ribbon, and very few bonnets are seen without them.

I last devote a few lines to the newest methods of dressing hair. One way is arranging it in rolls; for this the hair is tied close behind, one tail above the other, each being again divided in half. The two lower ones are made into a circular pad, and into a loose roll surrounding it half way the two upper parts make two more rolls, placed one over the other. The front hair is waved and combed up high over the forehead, or it is parted in the centre, and arranged so as to fall loosely over the sides. The other way of doing the hair is to make a small twist, which projects from the centre, and then surround it with a very thick roll of hair, twisted, not pleated, which is shaped in an oval form, and is rather low on the nape of the neck.

"The mantle with side ends" that we illustrate is one of the prettiest of the new shapes, and is of moire and white lace, which makes it very suitable for summer use; the figure at the extreme left hand shows this very newest way of trimming the new summer silk gowns with lace on the skirt and bodice. The choice bows on the points of the festoons are of a colour to match the gown or of black velvet, and the pointed revers shape is newer than the lapels or a circular frill. The centre figure has a lace yoke outlined with a deep lace, and a basque of the same lace, while a deep lace blouse goes round the skirt, with a heading. The gown illustrated was a surah silk, with a black ground and a chintz flower of pink and blue shot.

The illustration of the coat bodice shows one of the new long waistcoats which are made of Indian cashmere. This material is used not only with tailor-made gowns, but also with all other dresses, and there is a general tendency to fancy Indian materials and colours for blouses and waistcoats as well as for bibs, and I have seen the old-fashioned Bandanna handkerchiefs made use of for all of them; both bib fronts and fall shirt fronts are made very puffed and full, and there is a general fancy for large bows in front of the bodice.

The collar bands of all dresses are made with folds and are never plain, and this is the waistband as well as the upper part of the sleeves are of a contrasting colour with the dress. Sashes are quite as much used as ever, and I think white moire ones on coloured gowns are a very pretty new departure, and suitable for young girls.

This coat bodice with the vest of cashmere material we have selected as our paper pattern, as it offers no difficulty in making at home. The back is in one piece, and the
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER

basque is full and long, the front of the coat being of Eton shape with wide lapels. It is in six pieces: front, half of rever sleeve cuff, back and half of waistcoat. The waistcoat is not given, as it can be worn with any kind of front, bib or waistcoat as preferred. This is the fashionable way of making the linen dress that will be used during the summer and autumn, and they can be easily made at home. We can send patterns of any kind of front, and these should be made at home, if they can be managed so much cheaper in this way.

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All paper patterns are of medium size, viz., thirty-six inches round the chest, with no turnings allowed, and only twice the size is prepared for sale. They may be had of "The Lady Dressmaker," care of Mr. W. Isaac, 211, Edgware Road, W., price 6d., each; if tackled in place, 6d. extra. The addresses should be fully given. Postal notes should be crossed. Patterns already issued may always be obtained.

THE GIRL'S OWN

BEING a scheme for studying the Bible day by day for self-culture, with text questions to prove that the reading has not been wasted.

RULES.

Half-an-hour's study and reading each day, One chapter a day to be read, the books for the present month being Joshua and Judges. A course of Biblical study will occupy three years and three months.

Ten questions must be performed each month in the "G. O. P."

Answers to be sent in by the first week in the following month by readers in Great Britain; by readers in Greater Britain answer to be sent within a month later.

Books required for the present year's study: Joshua, Judges (D. Estley, R. T. S., 5s.); Bible Cyclopaedia (Dr. Estley, R. T. S.); Oxford (or Queen's Printers') Bible to the Study of the Bible, 18, or 3s. 6d.; the Revised Version of the Bible.

Prizes will be given at the close of each year (not of the course).

First Prizes will be given to each student who shall give the necessary marks.

Also a certain number of Second Prizes, according to the number of the students, will be given to the best of those who have reached the required standard. Handwriting and neatness in the MSS. will be considered.

First Prizes to consist of books to the value of One Guinea. Second Prizes to the value of Half-a-Guinea. Students who are prepared to make-up the answers to the questions that have gone before may join at any time during the first half of the year "G. O. P.," i.e. from November to April inclusive. But in all cases the subscription will be 1s. per annum, payable always in advance, and by the post to the Editor of The Girl's Own Paper, 56, Paternoster Row, London. Each letter in connection with this work to have a postmark "Girl's Own Guild." A card of membership will be sent to each member, signed by the Editor.

With reference to the answers from No. 30 to 40, we are glad to see that many girls have remembered to write their registered number on their papers; but we have, nevertheless, received half-a-dozen bearing neither number nor name, and thus they must be disqualified unless those deficiencies can be supplied from their source.

In No. 33 many have answered well, those of you who have not answered well have realised the importance of the question. No. 39 has caused much difficulty, as it would appear. Although no exact period of time is given, the answers of those who have got it are correct. Aaron to Pharaoth, the scattering of the people over the land to find straw, and the increasing of the stores, and the reproaches made to Moses by the Egyptians do demonstrate the fact that most certainly more than "one day" was thus occupied by so many events. Yet the general opinion of our corresponding members is that all were crowded into a single day. The period of time which they actually occupied is to be roughly calculated by the search (Deut. 1:35). Showing that the fields were reaped but not yet ploughed after the first application to Pharaoh, and the Nile being in flood when the second appeal was made, a period of about two months. No. 12 has answered this question in a most sensible way. Those who have answered question 37 mostyly make a mistake as to the time that the Egyptians were driven out. It was before, not after, the tenth plague. The blood of the lamb slain was sprinkled on the lintels of the doors before the angel of the Lord passed over, and the house was spared that showed the sprinkling.

In the answers from No. 40 to 50, one of the most important questions has not been thorougly carried out, viz., that of 42, although some of our members have answered it exceedingly well. The whole of the Decalogue can be proved to have been known and formed a part of the Israelites before they were re-ordained in the time of Moses, and examples in demonstration of this fact are to be found in the Book of Genesis. Again, with reference to the question of 43, the statements of six blameless men, not merely of men who were known to be the servants of God only, nor do they mean to say that they were perfect, but of men of whom no fault is recorded. From these Noah is excluded on account of his intoxication, although he is one of the three blessed, and his blood mingled with Daniel and Job as pre-eminently so in Ezeckiel xiv. 15 and 20; Abraham, "the friend of God" and the "father of the faithful," as also Isaac and Jacob on account of their defeat on occasions of temptation; Moses, likewise, who "swore the rock" when commanded to speak to it only, and Lot for dwelling with his family amongst the infamous inhabitants of the "cities of the plain." The men of Jericho were included in the six blameless men in their various answers, but one only has given the names of five or them correctly: no member has indicated six, and yet we think that giving a little extra is thought to the question, and the way in which it was worded, that its difficulties would not prove very great. In requiring six names we have given the full number that might have been so distinguished.

QUESTIONS.

81. Give an instance in the Book of Joshua of the Eastern law of hospitality being sufficient to protect even a hostile and treacherous enemy. Comment on the deed of Jael, afterwards recorded.

82. By what act, chronicled in the last chapter of Joshua, did the Israelites show that they had obtained full right over the Promised Land?

83. What period does this Book of Joshua cover? Give any reasons that may occur to you for the visits made by the Israelites after the death of Joshua.

84. How many judges ruled over Israel? Which of them was the most famous? and who was the last? With which did the office become life-long? and with which hereditary? Name any who are thought to have been contemporaries.

85. Name the two women mentioned in the Book of Judges as having saved Israel? and by what means did they accomplish this?

86. Contrast the characters of Gideon and Samson.

87. What remarkable man is named in the Book of Judges who was a "Nazirite" for God during how many years did he judge Israel?

88. What were the dimensions of the Promised Land? and what were the boundaries? What portion of the country remained unconquered during the days of the judges? What special accessories of ancient warfare inspired the Israelites with the utmost dread?

89. How often is the Ephod mentioned in the Book of Judges? What was it? and in what manner was it used profanely?

90. Name the first Parable given in the Bible, a famous riddle, and three prayers contained in the Book of Judges?
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

NEW SLEEVE AND BODICE DRAPERY.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

By "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

It seems almost foolish to mention the weather, as one of the chief factors of an article on dress; but when it rains the London season, and one has to think twice before assuming summer attire, it becomes very important indeed. So many of the great functions by day are held out of doors; it is here that one has the best opportunity for seeing what everyone is wearing. One of the prettiest occasions is the Floral Fete in the Botanical Gardens in Regent's Park, and the most charming part of it is the procession or children's parade, in the broad walk, after the prizes are adjudged; but this year, the day was one of those distinguished by a steady and continuous downpour; so that the conservatory, and the huge marquees were both full, and very little was to be seen of the pageant as wound through the crowd, assembled under the sweating roof of the hut. Pretty dresses were conspicuous by their absence, and everyone had made themselves look as well as possible in apparel which seemed suitable to the day. With few exceptions this story has been repeated throughout the season, and the sight of the accumulations in the shops which ought to have been sold is very depressing.

One of the strange things brought about by the absence of fine weather, has been that the furriers have had an "innings," for the little hoops for the neck are quite as much used as ever, and are generally of silks, when the wearer can afford it. So they make their appearance with all kinds of light-lined costumes, and to the unaccustomed eye they look extremely odd in June and July.

The great feature of all the very smart gowns of to-day is, that they are not complete unless decorated with chiffon; thousands of yards of that very costly, but easily ruined, material being used wherever the great world congregates, at out-of-door fêtes especially. Chiffon is mostly used for bodices, and every second fête-gown will have a bodice of it. The other thing that strikes one most is that sashes have returned to fashion, and that tiny rosettes have taken the place of bows in the decoration of dresses. There is in some of the thinner gowns of crêpe de chine a decided attempt to bring in the "jupon," or some description of drapery at the waist, but it is not very evident as yet. In Paris very finely striped silks called "Louis Seize" are worn, in amber and white, and blue and white; but black and white is the most patronised of all. The bodices are trimmed with cream or yellow-tinted lace, or the deep lace with the so-called "Milanese points." The vividly-coloured neck-bands of velvet or satin have a waist-band or sash to match them of equally vivid hue, and these are most seen with black and white costumes. Large trianon hats of guaze and lace are more worn than bonnets in Paris, and have long white feathers arranged on them with roses of every shade. What are called blouse covers reign as much in Paris as they do here, and in nearly every instance the sleeves are unlike the bodice, and resemble the skirt, and moiré remains the favourite material for either the bodice or the sleeves. The latter are more voluminous than ever, and are buttoned tightly at the wrist, when they do not open for an inch or two to allow a coloured lining to be seen.

I notice that black gloves have made their appearance again, and are worn whenever there is any black, or trimmings of black, in the dress, in which case the shoes and stockings are also black. Open-worked stockings are more used this year than ever, and everyone is noticing that much thinner and prettier shoes are worn. Formerly, one of the blots on the dress of the Englishwoman was her heavy boots and shoes, worn with a light summer toilette, with which they were quite out of place. The climate, of course, had much to do with this, and the fashion of out-of-door fêtes where rain was so frequently to be expected.

In the sketch of "A Crêpe Dress" I have endeavoured to give an idea of one of the new bodices with a trimming to imitate a corsette. The trimming, however, only put on to the lining, an arrangement that would enable the home-dressmaker to copy this gown herself.
The material is one of the new "crinkled" crepons, the underskirt being made of moiré, with a thick ruche of the same round the edge. The edge of the skirt of crepon is ornamented with a lace of Milanese points turned up so as to form a transparent edging. The upper part of the bodice is of moiré with straps of ribbon over it, and the sleeves are crepons, and the band is of the same material also.

The "Costume of Shepherd's Plaid" is copied from a pretty dress made by a London tailor. It is of fine woolen tweed, the revers being of black moiré, with folds of the tweed stitched on flatly at the edge. The hat is of white straw, with two large bows of black velvet, and a pair of white "mercury wings." The figure standing with her back to us shows one of the newest skirts, and the method of arranging the folds, which are held in their places by elastic bands underneath, the back breadth being well-stiffened with crinoline of horsehair. The blouse-bodice worn is of French manufacture, and is made of fine Spanish silk, with bands of fine tucks on both the bodice and the sleeves. The collar is tucked also. The jacket to wear with this skirt is open in front, with revers of moiré; the material of both dress and skirt is of a coarse "hop-packing," the chief drawback to it being that it wears rather rough, but it is so very pretty that one condones even that grave fault.

The two lounging figures in the "New Sleeve and Bodice Drapery," are both of them habited in summer dresses; and the new puffed sleeve, and the revers, pointed both at back and front, are well seen; the bodice-drapery on the other figure is very much worn, and may be made either of the material of the gown, or of either moiré or silk.

There seems no doubt that the autumn will see a decided struggle between the plain, and the draped skirt; and I daresay that both will be worn, as indeed they are at present. The plain skirt, when well cut, is very becoming, and appears to suit every style of dress; and there seems no desire on anyone's part to revive the fashion of gathers at the front of the waist; the perfectly plain fronts and sides are so much more stylish.

The basques is rather more seen than it was, I think; and there were several gowns with the three-tiered skirt which came last year, but which obtained no hold on our fancies. The newest ones are made with no fulness in them, and are merely bias rounds of material. The newest basques that I have seen are cut from a square of material, and thus made to look plain at the waist, and to set in full folds below. They were first seen this spring in a West End show-room, and we illustrated one of them last month with very long points in front. The newest are rather shorter, however, and are smarter; likewise the double rounded basques, as well as those with "spun" are pretty; and I should not wonder if we saw more of them this winter. But, for summer gowns, the revival of the sash seems natural, as it is such a pretty addition to a light dress. The seamless bodice is still popular, but one seam in the middle of the back seems to be equally well-liked.

The pattern selected for the month's paper pattern is one of the new Norfolk blouses which have been revived by several of the best London tailors as a model for dresses of light worsted, serger and tweed, intended for early autumn, in the country, at the sea-side, or in Scotland. It is not only becoming, but it forms a pleasant change from the plain blouse which we have worn so long. We have applied the new "bishop sleeves" to it, and the folded collar; and it will be found easy to make in either wool or without a plain lining. The pattern consists of seven pieces—the sleeve and cuff, folded collar, front of yoke, and back of do., and the front and back of the blouse. This blouse is worn over the gown, and is in every way like the old-fashioned one which was so popular some years ago, save for the sleeves and the collar, which bring it up to the present day modes.

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Combination (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (under-bodice and petticoat), plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, under-bodice instead of stays, pyjama or night-dress combination, American encaulcement suit and bodice instead of stays, men's pyjamas, walking gaiter, dress drawers (made of the dress material, for winter use), dressing jacket, dressing gown, Canadian blanket-coat or dressing gown. Children.—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock pinaffles. Mantles.—Berlin with sling sleeves, mantle with "stole" ends, old ladies' mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloak, four-in-hand cape with three capes, Tudor cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter length, cloak with...
yoke, mantle of lace and silk. **Blouses.**—Norfolk blouse with pleats, Norfolk blouse with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouse with loose front, sailor blouse and collar, yoked blouse, new blouse with full front and frill. **Jackets and Bodices.**—Plain dress bodice for either cotton or woollen material, tailor-made bodice, corset bodice with full sleeves and yoke, jacket bodice and waistcoat, Bréton jacket and waistcoat, jacket for out or indoor wear, Sensorita jacket, seamless bodice, bodice fastened under the arm, long basque jacket, jacket with revers, summer out-of-door jacket, bathing dress, gymastic suit, princess dress, tea gown, chemilette combination for winter underwear, umbrella skirt, four-gored skirt, jacket bodice with coat tails, whole-laced jacket plain or with Watteau pleat, bodice with full front, cape with three tiers, princess robe, under petticoat, four sleeve patterns, bodice with new back, Russian blouse, new skirt in two breadth, Empire given with princess underdress, spring jacket bodice, full bodice and frill, Sensorita jacket, new circular skirt, double skirt, short three-quarter cape, cross-over blouse, Bouncing skirt, bell skirt, moned blouse, new French capes, winter or summer knickerbockers, bib-front, and waistcoat.

All paper patterns are of medium size, viz., thirty-six inches round the chest, with no turnings allowed, and only one size is prepared for sale. They may be had of "The Lady Dressmaker," care of Mr. W. Isacke, 211, Edgeware Road, W.; price 1s. each; if packed in place, 6d. extra. The addresses should be fully given. Postal notes should be crossed. Patterns already issued may always be obtained. Notice change of address; loss may result from oversight of this fact.

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THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

**BEING a scheme for studying the Bible day by day for self-culture, with test questions to prove that the reading has not been wasted.**

**RULES.**

Half-an-hour's study and reading each day. One chapter a day to be read, the books for the present month being Joshua, Judges, Ruth, and Samuel. A course of Biblical study will occupy three years and three months.

Ten questions to be published each month in the "G. O. P."

Answers to be sent in by the first week in the following month by readers in Great Britain: by readers in Greater Britain answers to be sent within a month later.

Books required for the present year's study: *The Bible Handbook* (Dr. Anges, R. T. S., 5s.); *Bible Cyclopaedia* (Dr. Etheridge, 3s. 6d.); *Aids to the Study of the Bible*, 1s. or 3s. 6d.; *the Revised Version of the Bible.*

Prizes will be given at the close of each year (not of the course).

First Prizes will be given to each student who has obtained the necessary number of marks. Also a certain number of Second Prizes, according to the number of the students, will be given to the best of those who have reached the required standard. Handwriting and neatness in the MSS. will be considered.

First Prizes to consist of books to the value of One Guinea. Second Prizes to the value of Half-a-Guinea. Students who are prepared to make-up the answers to the questions that have gone before may join at any time during the first six months of the "G. O. P."

**QUESTIONS.**

91. Name the six different oppressions of the Israelites. Give references to them in the Book of Judges, and the several names of their deliverers, and the duration of each of the oppressions.

92. To what period of time does the Book of Ruth refer? By whom was Israel then judged? For what reasons is the Book of Ruth particularly valuable? Where are its genealogies quoted in the New Testament?

93. How does the history of Ruth bear on the descent of David, and of David's "greater Son"? Of what blessing was her adoption into the Church of Israel a pledge? Quote the words of our Lord, recorded in the gospel according to St. Matthew viii., which had reference to that blessing?

94. Illustrate the method by which the Israelites redeemed a kinsman's land, from the Book of Ruth, iv.; and also the token given when the transaction was completed?

95. What three biographies form the Books of Samuel? Where is the passage to be found that implies the writing of books by Samuel, Nathan, and Gad?

96. Analyse the song of Hannah, and show to whom, and to what events she prophetically alludes. Refer to a song in the New Testament that seems partly derived from Hannah's.

97. We are met on the threshold of the Books of Samuel with a name of God which does not occur in the Pentateuch, Joshua, or Judges, but which is common in the prophets. Find five consecutive verses in Isaiah which best describe its meaning, and give two references to it from the New Testament.

98. Give a sketch of the life and character of Samuel, tracing it through his three-fold offices of high priest, judge, and prophet. On what is his reputation as a statesman founded?

99. From the name of what town in Canaan, given in the Books of Joshua and Judges, and that was conquered by the Israelites, do we gather the existence of a literature in that nation? Where do we find the mention of companies or "schools" of the prophets? Give the name of their founder, and of the man who wrote a book, and "laid it up"?

100. Mention the first allusion to the Amalekites. Of whom are they the descendants? Where are they called "the first of the nations"? Give a short summary of the four chief acts of the Amalekites in the Old Testament, with references.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

LACE-COVERED BODICE AND GARÇON DE CAFÉ JACKET.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

BY "THE LADY DRESSMAKER."

I shall begin my monthly chronicle on the changes in clothing by a most interesting and wonderful quotation from an evening contemporary. It announces nothing less than the discovery of a method of treating materials, which will supersede the product of the silkworms' labour; and perhaps will enable us all to "walk" brilliantly in "silk attire."

"Science is constantly seeking to emulate nature in that wonderful provision which prevents waste, and schemes are continually being devised for the purpose of utilizing and turning to profit what hitherto had been regarded as useless, and cast away as so much rubbish. One of the most ingenious of recent inventions which tends in this direction is that devised by Dr. Friedrich Lehner of Zurich, who, by chemical and mechanical means, practically supersedes the silkworm, and spins from such raw material as cotton waste, jute waste, or wood pulp, a thread which even the expert eye can hardly distinguish from that obtained off the natural cocoon. Recently, a number of gentlemen interested in the silk trade and in textile manufactures, journeyed from London (under the guidance of Mr. W. A. Lawton) and from Manchester to Bradford, where the process was seen in operation, and numerous pieces of silk woven in various designs and dyed in different colours were inspected. The process is easily explainable, and the machinery involved is extremely simple, the method adopted by the silkworm being followed as closely as possible. When the emulsion has been made, it is run into tubes, at the end of which are fitted what are termed "artificial silkworms." The liquid drops in a continuous stream through a very fine hole, and passes through water, which cools it and afterwards forces it into a strand; this is caught up and passed over a guide where the strands composing the one thread of yarn meet, and the thread is twisted around and over them, and nearly resembles an ordinary spinning frame, to the flyer and bobbin. Commencing in a liquid state, the chemically digested material is thus turned out a thread of even diameter, and of broken and unlimited length. The noticeable feature is the remarkable gloss obtained when the cellulose has been thus transformed, and some of the woven articles exhibited with their weft of artificial and the warp of real silk were not to be distinguished either in touch or appearance from genuine silk goods, while tassels and trimmings for upholstery purposes looked wonderfully well, and it is said to be in this latter direction that the new material will find most favour. A company, with a capital of £60,000, is being formed to acquire Dr. Lehner's patents and to work the process. The directors is to include several influential men engaged in the silk industry, so that evidently the artificial article is regarded with favour by those concerned in the trade. According to Mr. W. Townend, manager of the Bradford Conditioning House, who has made an official report, the relative strength of the artificial compared with Italian silk of the same counts (400 yards to the ounce) is as 88 to 100, the stretching quality before breaking as 73 to 100, and he further says that the gloss and lustre is equal to the best silk, and that in its denatured state it is perfectly safe for storing in quantity."

"I am sure you will all agree that this is a wonderful thing to have discovered, and one is only sorry that an Englishman, or woman, was not the lucky person to find it out."

The July sales have been more attractive than usual this year, perhaps owing to the fact that the season's sales were so bad, owing to the unseasonable and chilly weather; and no departments have been so much crowded as those which contain the stock of blouses of all hues and materials. On these there has been a perfect rush, and on the first days of the sales the counters were crowded—certainly two deep—and, apparently, every woman who does not patronize a blouse, wears a front. The favourite material for these just now is a cream-coloured embroidered muslin, with a collar, in fobs, of course, of velvet; or sometimes lately I have seen satin. This waistcoat-front is drawn in at the edge with a draw-string, and so requires little trouble in putting it on and arranging it. Nothing more softly becoming was ever invented, I think; and the muslin looks pretty, and suitable to be worn with all materials even with tweed, and serges, and very well indeed with holland.

Just lately I have noticed a tendency to fancy the short "Garçon de Café" jackets which so much resemble the "Eton," save that the bodice is cut in two pieces, only the back and the front—this jacket is shown in our illustration. The sleeves remain quite as full as ever; and every bit of trimming is bunched up at the shoulders and neck, the skirt remaining quite plain and undecorated, and cut in, what may be called a moderate "Bell-shaped." It is very generally stiffened at the bottom, so as to set off round the feet.
The newest skirts are decidedly longer; in fact, they drag on the ground at least three inches. Last winter, many women have seen get tired of the comfortable short skirt, which was the correct thing in the early spring. The idea is that the short skirt is becoming, and makes people look short and stumpy. I only hope we shall, nevertheless, return to them when winter is once more upon us; for either fastening up the skirt, or holding it up, is a perfectly intolerable thing in cold weather and muddy streets, and no method of fastening them up seems to be becoming to the figure.

It is delightful to see the reappearance of Tussore silk as a warm weather material. Nothing wears so well, nor bears washing, and remodelling so happily; and then it mixes well with English lace or silk, and there is a softness about the tint that makes it becoming to adults as well as young girls. For boys' blouses it answers quite as well as for girls' overalls and frocks. But I prefer it as an entire gown, more than when it is only used as a blouse.

Everybody donned their best gowns to go to the royal garden-party at Clarence House, on the occasion of the first entertainment given by the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, since they ascended the Grand Ducal throne of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, as everyone royal, and others celebrated in any way, and of any kind of rank, formed part of the 2000 guests, of course there was much to be remodeled in the way of dress, moire and satin, diversified with some of the pretty chintz flowered silks, or moire brocades were the handsomest gowns worn. But there was a great deal of that more useful and humber material, crepe, which has been the stand-by gown of all who wanted to look nice, and yet to spend little on their dress. The princess of Wales wore a black crepe trimmed with heliotrope, and had a pretty little jet bonnet with a wreath of violets in it. Every colour of crepe was to be seen: pale blue with lace, moire with satin and brocaded brown over pelmenia silk; and several gowns of the new satin-striped crepe which is so pretty. One dress was of green and white-striped crepe, and with this a mauve sash and a broad-brimmed hat was worn, the latter trimmed with green tulle and mauve flowers. The second great state ball, given at Buckingham palace, is said to have been attended by a greater number of royal, oriental and distinguished personages than any given during the last twenty years, and a very decided fashion to wear silks, and materials of English make only. This is an effort in which many of the best-known people in the profession are interested; and in which I think every woman and girl should lend her aid, by inquiring for English-made materials and English-made goods of all kinds.

I do not know if any masculine eyes ever gaze on this column, but at any rate I think it well to mention that the ever-favourite moire has been adopted by gentlemen for their Summer suits generally worn being black for the morning and white for the afternoon. I also notice that shirt-fronts of the brightest pink are much seen; with them are worn white collars and white moire ties, or with black, blue, or deep-red ties of the same material. I think, while I am on the subject of attire, that we have had all hands with delight the return of the habit, in its ancient glory, to fashion, and the consequent disappearance from the Rowe of the unadorned riders in jackets that did not make a habit and all kinds of other horrors, including sailor-lads. I noticed some really smart-looking riders in well-fitted habits the other day, and most of them seemed to know what a skirt, which entails great care in the selection of brooms, as the petticoats are made so short that these are much shown. There is nothing so funny as the appearance of these "safety skirts" when they are off—they are only half a skirt, after all.

The Queen, as she usually does, given very handsome orders to the manufacturers of Irish poplin for the trousseau of Princess Alice of Hesse. Some of these are interwoven with real gold threads, to form the pattern of the brocading; and a green brocade, with a design of ostrich feathers skillfully shaded, was much admired by all who saw them. Much of the trousseau of the Princess is being got up in England, and especially the tailor-made gowns.

One of the new trimmings for hats that has appeared recently is the beekeeper style of putting black or white lace on the crown. The hat is of true straw and is wide-brimmed; over the crown a large circular piece of guipure lace, placed on just below the crown so that it will form a flat, wide, soft crown, in imitation of the well-known bee-eater of old days. An upright sprig of flowers, or an up-standing bow of ribbon, is used to push up this lace crown on one side, and a bow of ribbon rests on the brim, with a similar bow underneath, near the hair. Guipure insertions are used underneath the brim, and is also seen on either white or hats of sunburst-straw.

Our illustration shows one of the Pierrot, or French clown's collar, which has been seen in London in the early part of the season; they are made of chiffon, and if made in muslin or net would be very pretty for girls. The little guipure collar is a very useful little novelty of the same sort, and forms a pretty little addition to the toilette, which will turn a plain gown into an afternoon and garden-party dress, with no trouble and little expense. The lace-covered bodice is also very easily composed of an old silk bodice, either black or coloured, the lace being stretched over the bodice plain, and fastened on the shoulder and under the arm. The sleeves may match the dress or be of a fancy silk, as most approved. The little guipure de café inbect is a French novelty, and is very pretty and simple. We have selected for our pattern a round golf cape, made of reversible cloth in either one piece or with a join at the back, as the cloth selected will allow. Some of these are made with a hood, or the last in have a small round cape and a simple round collar. Two and a half to three yards of cloth, if it be forty-four inches wide, would be needed for this cape.

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Combination (drawers and chemise), princess petticoat (under-bodice and petticoat), plain gored princess chemise, divided skirt, under-bodice instead of stays, pyjama or nightdress combination, American emancipation suit and bodice instead of stays, nightgowns, walking gaiter, dress drawers (made of the}
dress material, for winter use, dressing jacket, dressing gown, Canadian blanket-coat or dressing gown. 

Children.—Little Lord Fauntleroy suit, child's combination, child's princess frock pinnafores. Mantles.—Barnard's with sling sleeves, mantle with "stole" ends, old ladies mantle, Irish wrap or shawl cloaks, four-in-hand cape with three caps, Tudor cape, yoked cape, mantle of three-quarter lengths, cloak with yoke, mantle of lace and silk. 

Norfolk; Norfolk blouson with spots, Norfolk blouson with yoke and pleats, Garibaldi blouson with loose front, sailor blouson and collar, Norfolk blouson, new blouse with full front and frill. 

Boots and Boaters.—Plain dress bodice for either cotton or woollen material, tailor-made bodice, corset bodice with full sleeves and yoke, jacket bodice and waistcoat. 

"SKETCH FROM VILLAGE LIFE." 

By ADA M. TROTTER, Author of "My Lady Marjorie," etc. 

It was sunset. There had been a storm, and even now rain-drops flashed and sparkled on the leaves, and showers caught by the wind besprinkled the grass-blades of the orchard. At this hour the village folk, seeking distraction, strolled idly forth, sometimes to watch a wrestling bout on the green, or a cricket-match between the youths of two villages, or to listen to a rare dish of gossip served up by the town-crier. This evening, however, there was something new — the crowd gathered round the Frie Dieu, on the steps of which an earnest man stood preaching. Men, women, and children listened open-mouthed, scarce comprehending what were these tidings borne to them by the rude speaker. Soon lapsing into indifference they strolled away, only a few remained; and these were too dull to follow the fervent words about heaven and the Christ. Just then the soft footfall of the farmer's cows was heard in the distance, and from behind the lazy animals came familiar sounds — the inarticulate cries of a half-dumb lad, who seemed scarce as intelligent as the beautiful colly at his heels. The preacher paused. 

"It's only Georgie the idiot," said a woman, roughly. 

The cows passed in at the open gate, and the lad with open mouth and staring eyes stood close and closest to the preacher, who was still trying to uplift his hearers to a heavenly horizon, where the streets were thronged with angelic hosts singing Alleluia to the Christ. Suddenly a hoarse chuckle broke the thread of his discourse, a smile radiant as sunshine for a moment illuminated the vacant face of the pale lad. Had he heard with understanding ears? Fie the slow-witted preacher had resolved this question, a matter of thunder broke the silence, and the child ran away. Clouds gathered; wind rushed onwards with the heavy thunder-clouds; the last rift of sunshine disappeared; the village lay shrouded in gloom. To Georgie this was an hour of agony; his terror of the elements consumed him, but the farmer's wife, always kind, sought the child as he crouched in the loft, and drew him to her corner of the settle. As he sat there, muttering to himself, the farmer's daughter, who had just returned from a cathedral town some ten miles distant, talked eagerly of the "heavenly music" she had heard. Georgie absorbed it all. 

Outside there was storm, wind and thunder with the patter of rain-drops; spring-blossoms strewed the meadows. Inside the house a dull brain had gained a great light; the beads of an eternal spring began to blossom. Heaven where the angels lived, where the lame could walk and the dumb could speak, was near; he, Georgie, could find it. 

Next morning he was missing. His beloved cows were driven to pasture by another, less tender hand. And Georgie! Where was he? 

Somehow he had reached the city, had found the cathedral; it was the hour of evening; and the child crept into the shadowy aisles. He made for the gorgeous flames of crimson and purple that slanted from the coloured windows to the floor, and stood in the ambrosial glories breathing fast with intense delight. The white-robed angels were singing. Yes! it was all right. This was heaven, here in the purple and gold, and presently when the angels had finished singing, he would be able to speak. The organ thrilled the grand old building with superb harmony, ending with a crash like thunder. Then that procession formed, and the angels went away, and the gold and glory faded from about the disappointed child, only the grey stones in the underfoot, and the shadowy aisles grew dark, as the crimson flames died with the setting sun. 

Georgie came home next evening from the meadows with the cows. In vain did the kind farmer's wife question him. She saw sorrow and disappointment in the child's eyes, but not even to her could he voice his grief. Time passed on. In early morning Georgie might be seen driving his quiet charges to the Severn side, and in the evenings he reappeared with them. His friend watched him uneasily, the child was growing thin and weak; what ailed the poor half-witted creature? 

The preacher, merely a rough collier, came often; he preached from the cross, and then talked with the children, who played hide-and-seek in the arches once filled with effigies of the saints. He it was who reached out and caught the gimmer of reason in the sorrowful face of poor Georgie. Week by week he taught the patient listener until the autumn, and then he saw the child no more. 

"Georgie is very ill, I fear," said the farmer's wife. 

"I thought I heard him calling the cows?" said her husband. 

"Yes, but in his sleep. I have been with him all night." 

"The doctor says he is altogether diseased, mind and body," said the son. 

"Not in mind; that is growing clear," said the farmer's wife; "he talks about the angels and heaven." 

A few more days and the good woman went about her work weeping. Georgie was dead. The village-hall talked out its thirteen years of life, rang a short requiem, and was silent. Then one autumn day, when the sunbeams slanted on the ripened fruit which lay heaped up in the orchards, the village folk gathered together to lay little Georgie into his last rest. 

"Twas not to dust, ashes to ashes," said the vicar, and the clouds of earth fell upon the coffin. 

Ah! no! Life and joy and brightness, an awakening of a soul in the bliss of heaven.
GIRLS' ATTIRE: THE NEWEST AND BEST.

ON THE RIVER IN AUGUST.
The popularity of the "Zouave" still continues, and there is no doubt that it forms a very useful addition to the cool blouse, when the days of September make us feel that summer has taken its departure. Serge zouaves of very excellent cut and fit are sold in many of the best West-end houses, and at a moderate price, and it seems easier to purchase than to make them, when that is the case.

Navy-blue and black serges have not been so popular this autumn, because though of brighter hues of blue, "powder," "Prussian," "deep water," and even cornflower blues, are all brought out in serges, and are reported to stand well as regards colour, which, considering the hard wear usually given to serges, is one of the chief of its requisites. The ever-favourite skirt and shirt, with its jacket to match, is seen at the sea-side as much as ever, and the shape of the jacket is unchanged, while the skirt is a moderate "bell," with very decidedly "bell-shaped" lines, that flow outwards over the feet, and look much smarter than the straight-cut skirt ever did.

There are several pretty new styles in sleeves, and the newest is to make them quite as wide and large, but to cut them so that they may drop downwards to the elbow. One of the latter shapes has a series of small puffs down to the wrist from the elbow, one large puff taking the space from the shoulder downwards. I notice, however, that for popularity, there is nothing to equal the large full puff, and the long plain cuff below. The newest French sleeves are made in this manner, but the under-part of the sleeve is plain up to the top, the puff being on the top sleeve only. This way of cutting makes the sleeve set much better. For evening gowns the newest idea is to have the sleeves of differing materials, i.e., one of silk or satin, and one of chiffon or gauze, and the same idea may be repeated in tea-gowns as well.

The bodices are still much trimmed, and there seems a tendency to trim the skirts at the top, from the waist downwards; loops and bows of moire ribbon, about two inches wide, or flat bands of satin ribbon, ending (each of them) in a point, are used, and also both plain and fancy mohair braid.

Draped overskirts are more seen on evening gowns, where a pointed peplum-shape is popular, than on day dresses; and I think this season we shall see much braid used. There are several special makes of homespan and hop-sacking, which will be popular in the autumn, and no doubt will be trimmed with braid. I have recently seen a shot-green and pink silk made up with seven narrow flounces reaching to the waist; but I cannot tell how far this novel idea may be adopted. We often notice in London that new fashions, which are just seen at the end of one season, appear as the reigning styles of the next year.

One of the odd neck-arrangements, called a "cravat," consists of a folded band of white net, or chiffon, or coloured gauze, and on it are placed, at the sides, two fluffy-looking noisettes of the chiffon or net. These are supposed to be the most becoming things possible to the possessors of long thin necks. Neckties of all kinds are worn, black net with rather a large mesh being very popular, trimmed with cream or white insertion and lace, and tied in a large loose bow.

The newest bonnets seen at present are very small indeed, and the long ear-pieces which we have been wearing all the summer, have continued in use, and extended till they almost meet under the back-hair, where they are tied by a velvet bow. The back of this bonnet has an upstanding fan-like frill of velvet at the edge, which is wider at the top, and lessens almost to nothing. The front is trimmed only by two "chaux bows" of velvet, to match that at the back, and has two "mercury bows," which stand up on either side. The "Dutch bonnet" is still seen, and has grown rather plainer, and is less trimmed; but a novelty has appeared in the shape of another Dutch bonnet, which is really one more resembling the head-dresses worn by the Zeeland women, with a round bow at each side of the head. These bonnets are altered, in jet instead of metal, and a bow of velvet or satin is placed between them, with a pair of the fashionable...
THE GIRL'S OWN PAPER.

BLOUSE BODICE WITH PUFFED SLEEVES.  
(Paper pattern.)

upstanding wings, and probably a bunch of red roses also. Another new bonnet has a round and rather flat brim, and a very high but small and pointed crown.

The favourite hat, so far, seems to be the boat-shaped one; and, so doubt, from its close and comfortable fit, we shall see it much en evidence during the winter in felt, and probably in velvet.

Caps are a much used as ever; and the popularity of the "golf cape" is not surprising when we see how really useful it is, as well as easy to carry and to put on. Although to be bought at a cheap rate, there may be some amongst our readers who may like to make one for themselves, and they can easily do this by procuring a simple pattern. Lace caps and capes of velvet or surah will be much used for autumn and winter—they are so comfortable as well as becoming to most people. It seems not unlikely that we shall have very long caps introduced for the winter, which appeared last autumn, but were not much appreciated; however this year, trimmed with fur and lined with brightly-hued silks, we shall, I dare say, like them much better. The hoods will, probably, be replaced by plain round caps or collars, nearly reaching to the shoulders, and these will be mounted on crinoline to stiffen them.

Bandanna, as well as the spotted cotton pocket-handkerchiefs used by workmen, are much used for accompanying dresses, both of washing materials, crépon, and even serges. They are placed as cape-like bridelles, coming from the waist over the shoulders, the points falling over the tops of the sleeves like a cape; and the handkerchief being cut crossways, so that there is enough to finish the bias edge, where it meets the bodice with folds of the same. It should be mounted on a muslin foundation so as to make them firm, and thus they can be transferred from gown to blouse, or vice versa. They may be also used as fronts to bodices, collars and cuffs, and small capes, etc.

I meant to have given a line to the collarettes of net, either in black or white, which are, however, called "ruflles," and are likely to be much used this autumn; as everyone has missed the ever-useful and comfortable feather boa—and I constantly see that for women even when the gown is quite a thin one—and even a long far boa makes its unexpected appearance occasionally, the fact being that in our climate we do need some addition to our warmth.

One of the novelties of the season has been the adoption of golden safety-pins of a large size, to hold the dress and the bodice, or both together, at the back; they were introduced early in the season and are, I notice, sold in some of the first-class jewellers' shops in the West End; but just now they are quite new. Next year, as is going on in the East, they will have become the fashion. Several inventions have been brought out this year for the purpose of making the joining of the dress and bodice neat at the back; and they are, some of them, very successful. One of the best ways to ensure that the weight of the skirt (which is very great at present) shall not pull the band down at the back, and make the round of the waist uneven, is to have a pair of strings sewn on exactly in the front of the band underneath, and have a hook sewn firmly to the first of the strings; when this is done and the strings are securely tied, it will be found much less difficult to insure the tidi

VARIETIES.

He wanted to please.  
"Do you have damp sheets?" said the visitor at the hotel.  
"No," said the clerk who wanted to be obliging, "but we can sprinkle them for you if you like them that way."  

What women can do—"In the path of philosophy woman has seldom strolled to a great distance, but when times are hard," says an American writer, "she can go to market with a basket and bring back more comfort in a basket than a man could crowd into a two-horse waggon if told to back up and help himself."  

Whiu to Wind up a Watch.  
As a rule watches are wound up when people go to bed at night, but it is best to wind them up in the morning, not only because we generally sleep when we go to rest but also because a spring fully wound up will more readily overcome the disturbances which affect the correct going of a watch during the movement occasioned in wearing it.

Willing Hearts.  
A willing heart adds feathers to the bed, And makes the clown a winged Mercury.  
Joeena Barrie.

Appearance and Reality.  
The masterpiece of knowledge is to know  
But what is good, from what is good in show.  
Quarles.

Cheering Words.—Don't be niggardly with your praise. Many a person is lifting over the rough paths of life an appreciative word would send his feet flying onward as if there were no obstacles in the way.

Be kind to others.—Every kindness done to others is a step nearer to the life of Christ.  
Dow Stanley.