GOOD SAINT VALETTINE.

Appropriate Gifts for Love Lorn Maids and

Gallant Swains-Cards, Glove Holders,

Handkerchief Cases, Thermometers, and

Other Useful Things Made to Convey

The memory of good Saint Valentine.

patron of all true lovers, is honored this

year as never before, if the preparations

that have been made for his feast-day are

any indication. For months past the de-

signers have been outdoing one another in

their efforts to get up something particu-

larly novel and striking, something that

would coax the dollars out of the pockets

of love-lorn swains with more than ordi-

nary facility, and the result is a most be-

wildering array of dainty creations, some

tine" that combines the useful with the

covered with silk, is this appropriate verse

A satin folding card inscribed "To My

Valentine," contains a declaration that

even the most obtuse maiden could not

fail to understand. On the outside an ar-

row of celluloid, tipped with gold, sticks

quivering in the heart of a large pansy.

The face of my love,

Within you'll see; Would I could mirror My love for thee.

On opening the card the recipient will be

considerably startled to find herself looking

into the depths of a bevelled mirror, which

Another valentine, less elaborate, but on

the same lines, is a pink silk mat, the ends

of which are folded to represent a square

envelope. A spray of lillies of the valley,

handpainted, is thrown across the centre,

and underneath in quaint characters in this

"Open the envelope and see the dearest face on

On complying with these directions a

mirror is found embedded in a web of

11 SMF

sender is her "best true love."

white satin, which reflects the "dearest

face on earth" mantled with the prettiest

blush imaginable, provided the suspected

Glove boxes and handkerchief cases,

specially designed for valentine offerings,

sent year, but the manufacturers found that

these pretty trifles admitted of such dainty

work that they were put on the market

this season in every conceivable shape. A

of glass. It is bound about the edges with

silk ribbon, and has, indeed, huge ribbon

ribbon could possibly be attached it has been put on, the effect being extremely

pretty. On the glass lid a small flock of

blue finches are painted, perched on the

branch of a tree, and on each of the four

sides a spray of flowers almost hides the

glass. Inside the box the bottom is lined

thread. These cases are for handkerchiefs,

Another glove and handkerchief set in-

tended for a "valentine," is made up of

and glove boxes are made to match.

Under this is the inscription:

hinting strongly at a spurned love:

This will heal a cut,

But it will not cure A broken heart.

Tender Sentiments.

NEW SPRING FASHIONS position might open for somebody who

AS CONNED DEVOUTLY BY FAIR LENTEN DEVOTEES.

Prayer Book in Hand We Gaze at the Bright Shop Windows, Where Flowery Hats and Airy Ginghams Bloom Under Glass and Are Not Frost-Bitten.

NEW YORK, February 13.—In Lent we say our prayers and buy our cotton gowns. Sometimes, reversing the proceeding, we buy our gowns and pray-the dressmaker to be good to us and them. If you are with us on our quiet little shopping expeditions you would see that we are laying in store of:

Rough wools, very hairy of surface; Very light-colored peach and apricot cloths, smooth, unpatterned, supple and

White or mignonette wools, sheer enough



SPRING COAT AND WALKING GOWN.

to pull through finger rings, strewn with tulips or crocuses;

Fine twilled wools plaided in grey and

and violets. Lavender India silks dainty with pink valley lillies.

Polka dotted India silks, thousands and hundreds of thousands of them;

Black India silks, with small brilliant Pompadour garlands;

straggling stems of clover; White pongees with jonquils starting up

from the hem as if one walked in a garden of Spring posies; Cream colored pongees all adroop with hanging sprays of yellow acacia bloom; Crinkled crepes vividly alive with the

flowers, birds, bees or butterflies of Japan; Silvery or white challies over which creep vines of purple-blossomed wisteria; Scotch ginghams with mist-like, dusky

grounds, out of which peer deep-colored flowers in low tones as if seen at twilight; Tartan ginghams and big fancy plaids in pale heliotrope and pink, or pale blue and

Quaint and pretty silk-striped ginghams, at all silk prices;

Jaccard ginghams in old rose or China blue with Marie Antoinette flower patterns; Sheer white batistes with deep borders of briar roses, hand-worked above hemstitched hems;

Pale gold batistes with borders of valley lilies in white and shaded greens;

Black batistes powdered with scarlet maple keys shading into pinkish green; Black batistes with broad inserted stripes of open work embroidiery in wheels and

flower designs in black and purple. We are going to catch our summer clouts of drapery with lengths of broad velvet

We are going to wear a vast deal of the

brilliant dome blue out of doors. We are going to wear our street skirts

wear jackets of glowing, glorious yellow to velvet ribbon under the brim, a butterfly greet the spring sun in kind

We are going to wear other jackets of white velvet and polish coats of Roman red and "Moorish tailor coats" and French Varden trock with its polonaise draped and Spanish jackets of grey ladies' cloth short over the hips and edged with a narwith many coquetries of silver buttons and red or blue silk linings.

We are going to wear cavalier capes, full end straight, with immense collars and high shoulders, these in heliotrope cashmere back and front over white lace. The lace lined with silk, and with gold and silver | bodice has a watered silk ribbon crossing cords hanging from the tops of the arm- under the arms and other ribbons fastened holes down over the seams.



A PANIERED MODEL.

oques that are nothing but handfuls of bright flowers.

a crown we are going to hide them as we

could translate its "Paris letter" passably: The vest of that shape—meaning the very long vest—opened in front on a waistcoat is certainly very graceful, but it is not the same behind, unless being worn by very tall person. Suppose that long "basque" cutting the skirt in two, it is not artistic, especially if the lady is rather small and fat! I shall never recommend too much to well choose be cut of your costume after your shape. We notice in the first rank most original novel-

ties such as a bronze ottoman wrap with stripes of fire colored velvet. It is difficult not to be noticed with such a cloak. It is said that our epoch is so deprayed that such a great luxury is a proof of decadency; it would be amusing to prove that such a glaring luxury is a proof of virtue! I give that to analyze to philosophers: In fact the wall colored wraps made to protect the suspicious acts are no more admitted by fashion. This morning I saw two or three pretty

bits of spring millinery. Here they are for you. One was a little fluff of black gauze held partly in shape by two separate wreaths of fine yellow cinque-foil. At the back was a big careless bow of black velvet ribbon tving a standing sprig of yellow

Another was a toque made by taking a bunch of pink apple bloom and tying it up in a cloud of black net, quite as if caterpillars were about, except that the net was embroidered with golden butterflies and bees, which suggested of course a baffled hunt for honey and was much more poetical. With this crown went a jetted brim of ruched ribbon that seemed rather bizarre, and more apple blossoms free to the insect creation were massed behind.

There are many extraordinary shapes in straw that are like shells and flower petals and curled leaves and other things suitable to one woman in ten thousand. A rather large, white straw is wreathed heavily with arbutus. Between the hat and the hair behind is a little gold velvet baudeau from which depends a quaint golden net caught up again presently and letting the hair shine through its meshes.

A dainty silver grey straw has pendant clusters of pale lavender wisteria falling on the hair. For Spring concerts is a headdress that one takes to be a long thorny rose stem twisted three times about the head and then allowed to fasten itself under a cluster of creamy yellow rosebuds. The quietest and most attractive demi-

season bonnets are in mignonette, hyacinth, peach color or pearl to match walking cos- of which in point of price are calculated to tumes. These are of straw or they are make the average young man gasp. White India silks, gay with buttercups cloth toques, and their garnitures are ribbons and peach blossoms, hyacinths or poetic and ornamental-a court plaster

A foulard frock privately shown as a Spring model is of pinkish heliotrope with smoky green polka dots. It is cut after a simple princess design with Roman corsage straight across under the arms, and yoke Pale blue India pongees, patterned with and side skirt draperies of white lace. It



PINKISH FOULARD.

has half a dozen large rosettes of smoky green ribbon catching it in places, and each sleeve is a long diminishing puff from shoulder to wrist with lace cuff and rosette, long enough to cover up all but the merest | and a ruche-like out-work of the foulard suggestion of toe in front, and as much extending the whole distance down the longer than that as our common sense, or outer seam, with standing bows for watch lack of it, will allow on the fan breadths towers above the arm-holes. The hat which accompanies the suit is a large white We are going, those of us who dare, to lace flat with a ruched edge, smoky green and a mass of feathers for trimming.

A paniered evening model of purple orchids on a pale pink ground is like a Dolly row plaited ruching. Its white muslin stomacher is a charming feature.

A blue and white striped India silk has its skirt in two long rounded aprons draped by rosettes over the shoulders and carried We are going to put upon our heads toy down to other rosettes below the waist line. The hat is a yellow straw with a pointed brim projecting far in front and trimmed with bachelor's buttons and blue ribbons. A novel walking dress for spring is of dome-blue cloth with jet jewels sewn to

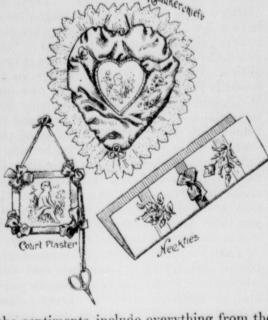
make a deep border about the foot of the skirt, and all over the sleeves and corsage. The three-quarter length jacket has a cloth back, but fronts of heavy black lace gathered quite full. There is a blue velvet were comparatively unknown until the pre-

vest and collar. Quite an elaborate foulard frock is of a silver blue over which are scattered bouquets of roses. Two narrow ruffles with a ruched head finish the bottom of the skirt unique pattern is a square flat shaped affair and there is a jacket of heavy white lace, scarcely coming in front of the arms. The bodice has a deep pointed vest of foulard bows on each corner. Wherever a bit of of the same ground color, but with smaller rose devices. There are velvet sleeves and a hat which has a falling edge of lace in a pointed Vandyke pattern.

It needs not to multiply examples. A pale violet wool frock has a quaint collar, rolled away from a loose front to show a silverh gray gilet of surah with a frill of with puffed satin which rests on a cushion silk going up to a throat bow. A dainty of cotton wadding. On this satin pretty frock of pale yellow wool, embroidered with valentine sentiments are worked in gold cowslips with long pale green stems droop-We are going to plait ruches of lace ing heavily, has green velvet yoke and about the flat hats for brims, and some- sleeves with fine gold braid for edging. times when we take three crimson roses for This is almost the only combination in which green is now much used. Many very thin wood, covered in blue silk, with spring frocks keep the feather trimmings.

of Thee," "From a Fond Heart," "Loving | inches high, on which is written: Thoughts," etc. All of these boxes are highly perfumed with sachet. They range NEW THINGS IN MEMORY OF THE

in price from four to eight dollars. A cheaper line costing from one to three dollars, are made of pasteboard, hand painted or covered with silk. The designs n these are innumerable, and they are invariably as pretty as they are unique. Here the inscription is always on one corner of the lid in silvered or gilt letters and



the sentiments include everything from the non-committal inscription "A Friend," to the amorous declaration "To Her Who Rules my Heart."

A valentine that is calculated to win any lady's heart is a combined handkerchief case and jewel box. It comes in the shape of a satin cushion, stuffed with eider down. The cushion is composed of two layers held together by a silk cord in the middle, and between these layers is the space for the handkerchiefs. On top, with a tufted lace cover is the jewel box, lined with quilted satin, of the same shade as the pillow. "With Best Wishes," "True Love," "My Queen," or some other sentiment in graduated degrees of warmth is daintily embroidered on one corner of the cushion, almost hidden under a cluster of red roses or brilliant poppies.

Many of the more elaborate valentines | and cheap. take the shape of musical instruments this year, while hearts which were formerly the One of the prettiest of these is a "valenfavorite pattern have been relegated to a back seat. A harp covered with blue silk and plush, is one of the most striking of pocket. The covers are of heavy pastethese musical designs. Under the silver board, hinged with pink ribbon. A good strings clusters of daisies are painted on supply of court plaster is fastened between, the silk, and shimmering through a coverwhile a tiny pair of scissors are attached to the pocket by means of a long silk ribbon. On the top cover, framed in green silk, is a pretty group of dancing cupids printed a protestations of affection are painted where on celluloid, and on the other side, which is no one but those for whom the words are intended may see them.

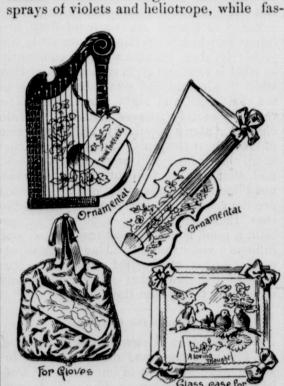
Fans, wall pockets, and cornicopias are also favorites with the valentine designers. The tans are generally intended merely for ornaments, and are made up in pretty patterns covered with silk, and trimmed with ribbon. The "valentine" is painted or embroidered on a broad ribbon that flutters from the handle bringing messages of respect, esteem or ardent love, according as the case between the sender and receiver has progressed.

Going back to the useful again, a pretty valentine comes in the shape of a writing tablet. The covers are of celluloid, hand painted or printed in bright colors. One of the best I saw was framed in green silk, and had a silver tipped pencil attached by means of a silver cord. On the cover was has been set into the card in a white velvet a gracefully draped figure crowned with frame. flowers in her hand. The valentine was evidently intended for use by a gentleman with whom the course of true love had not been entirely smooth, for on the reverse side was painted:

Pens are but cruel, dangerous things;
They're steel and wound the heart.
This offer, lady, he who brings,
Has often felt their smart.

Bookmarks are another one of the useful things that have been employed to do service for Cupid on St. Valentine's day. Of these there is one that is pretty certain to be a favorite with young gentlemen who have not yet arrived at an age when such things are taken seriously. This is the old device of bringing out the talismanic "Kiss me," by twirling the bookmark between the hands, a silk cord with tassels being attached to either end for the purpose. The bookmark itself is of pasteboard covered with white satin, and to give it an appropriate flavor of the occasion the complete design that shows when the strings are twisted is "Kiss me, my Valentine."

Quite a complete little writing set has also been cleverly worked up as a Valentine gift. It embraces a blotter, pen and pen wiper, combined in such a manner as to produce a most dainty effect. Two horseshoe shaped layers of fine blotting paper, one of white and one of pink, slightly smaller, are laid one on top the other. Then, mounted on these, is a heart made of celluloid pierced by an arrow of the same material. Around the edge of this heart are sprays of violets and heliotrope, while fas-



fened in the center is a scallop shell, beautifully colored by nature. This shell works trimmings of moire ribbons in bows and We are going to trim from behind, use long fluttering streamers and leave the long fluttering streamers are streamers and leave the long fluttering streamers are streamers and leave the long fluttering stre

AMMUNITION FOR CUPID. more numerous are: "With Sweet Thoughts | Fahrenheit to a celluloid scroll, about six | brown fur. The high Vienna sleeves were inches high on which is written."

May this tell you, how I love you,
When the Summers send it high
May it tell you, how I love you,
When the Winters round it sigh.

The ordinary valentine cards hold their own even with all these novelties to contend against, though even in them new ideas have been introduced. Quite a number have handsomely printed leaflets mounted on the lace on satin card, in which are copious extracts from the lovers' favorite poets. One folding card that I saw contained sonnets from Shakespeare, Brainard, Moore and Michael Angelo, all appropriately illustrated, and the whole was indited to "Ye Sweetest Mayed on Earth." Another folding card was trimmed with gold and silver cord and ornamented with a hand-painted group of snow birds.

As a matter of course nearly all the valentines produced are designed with especial reference to the fair sex, but the male end of creation has been by no means forgotten. The favorite device for them that has been adopted to do valentine duty is a necktie case. Of these there are varieties in every shape and form. The prevailing color seems somehow to run to blue. They are made of two long narrow pieces of extra heavy pasteboard, covered with silk or satin on the outside and lined with white silk. The hinges are of satin cord, and for decoration there are hand-painted sprays of flowers, generally golden rod, on both curves. Very few of them have inscriptions, the idea being to permit the fair sender to have any sentiment she may desire to express.

HOW AMERICAN WOMEN DRESS.

A Parisian Correspondent's Talks About American Ladies and Their Styles.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—There is but one fault to be found with the dressing of American women, and that is its too great magnificence, and unsuitability for the purpose. A gown which would never be worn except in a carriage abroad is, in this country, flaunted about the dirty streets just as carelessly as if it were something simple | credibly short space of time,

It must be conceded that the American woman on the whole has but scanty appreciation of the eternal fitness of things, and



is deficient in that nice sense of discrimination which makes the chic of the Parisian, be she grisette or grande dame. Gorgeousness is not elegance, and the well-dressed woman is like a beautiful picture where the tints are so blended and the design so artistic as not to call attention to any parti- This is a sensible innovation, as where shall culiar portion, yet forming a harmonious whole, which is a perpetual delight to the eye. Tints and not colors should be chosen, the starting aniline dyes and the geometric belt. The tailor utterly refuses us the figures, the plaids which remind one of the prison bars, and the bouquets of Brobdignagian proportions should all be eschewed by a woman who desires to please by the appropriateness of her toilets. Monotones are always restful, and the greys, browns, dull reds and greens are almost universally becoming to both fair and dark women. Any strong color coming in contact with the flesh is apt to deaden it by contrast, few complexions being perfect enough to withstand the damaging effects of brilliant

A woman with hair of that dullish brown seen on the under side of an autumn leaf, and with just a suggestion of a warmer tone, can produce a glorious harmony by it hisself. following out the scheme of color to the very minutest details. Such a gown was worn by a young girl recently returned from London. The costume was designed for her by a world-renowned artist, and garbed in it she was a veritable poem in brown. The clinging forreau skirt of leafbrown camel's hair bordered with mink front of a hat bare, except for a single bud over copper-colored faille. There is a half dozen snow birds, resting on a withor a poised dragonfly.

On the fid is draped out with quinted winte satin. On the fid is draped over copper-colored faille. There is a celluloid panel, in bright colors, showing over copper-colored basque which is doubleof the valentine by silk ribbon. We are going, I hope to use our wits, for its precious little wit some of the so- called fashion periodicals use for us. Called fashion periodicals use for us. Called magazine. It would seem that a coulated magazine wits, and the hat is copper and grey.

It would be pretty hard for a layman to imagine a valentine by silk ribbon.

It would be pretty hard for a layman to imagine a valentine sentiment woven about sides are adorned with hand painted sprays over a long flapped waistcoat of sugner brown faille with a vermicelli design of brown faille with a vermicelli design of brown and gold; the Valois collar was broaded in the solution over a long flapped waistcoat of sugner brown faille with a vermicelli design of brown and gold; the Valois collar was broaded in the outside and lined with sides are adorned with hand painted sprays of golden rod, and on the inner side of the some of the some material bound with fur, and worn imagine a valentine sentiment woven about over a long flapped waistcoat of sugner over a long flapped wa

and had deep cuffs of fur; the linings of the coat were of old rose moire. The Rubens hat was of long haired felt with a border of brown ostrich feathers; three Prince of Wales plumes nodded over the back, while in front were several short brown tips among which nestled a single tiny one of faintest pink, over which hovered a jewelled dragon fly.

We are threatened with an invasion of the Louis XV. coat, which appears in many varieties, the long close shape, however, being always preserved. A superb one designed for a stylish brunette was of plum-colored velvet; it was slashed in three pieces and narrowly faced with Persian lamb, as was also the front and the high flaring collar which reached almost to the ears; above the fur border was a narrow gold embroidiery studded with amethysts; two curved ornaments in the shape of conventional flowers swept away on either side of the bust, and were repeated in a smaller pattern upon the mouequestaire cuffs.

Some of the coats show a tendency towards a slight fulness, being shaped to the hops by a few gathers, and in some in stances flat plaits. Many of them are formed by having the skirts set on to pointed waists, and occasionally they end on each hip, the bodice being quite short in the back.

Late Parisian models show rather an alarming tendency towards the flare-skirt, which is interlined with some stiff material in order to make it stand out, thus offering a hideous suggestion of the crinoline in

vogue during the Second Empire.
Flounces are daily growing in favor, and will be much used upon the spring gowns, particularly on those of India silk and light weight woolen. The flounce is graceful finish to a dress, the fluffy fullness, making the foot look smaller by contrast. Most of the gowns are so tightly strapped that one's feet are always in evidence, and therefore should be treated with distinguished consideration. The flounce, the bias fold, or the velvet band, are all a protection to the street-sweeping skirt, which becomes soiled and ragged out in an in-

The continual replacing of the skirt braid is a vexation and a cross to women bereft of a hand-maiden. A commonsense woman of my acquaintance says that she has solved the problem of facing her skirt up on the under side to about the depth of three inches with velvet or corduroy, allowing a tiny row to appear on the right: my economical friend declares that this does not wear out like skirt braid, and is a great saving of time and trouble.

The abominable and utterly stupid

fashion of wearing gowns in the street which are long enough to sweep up the dust and refuse is unfortunately on the increase, women not having enoug strength of mind to resist the relentless decrees of the dress maker. It is not surprising that the trades-people are advocates of this style, as dresses necessarily wear out much sooner and must be frequently

Whether a skirt just dips or lays on the ground three inches, is immaterial, either style materially, reducing the labor of a scavenger. It really does require a vast amount of resolution to refuse to obey the mandates of la mode, and one does look a guy in a dress which clears the ground. Life is short and fashion is fleeting, and, from the remotest ages, women have been slaves to clothes. I believe that there must have been a fashion in fig leaves, and the Indian squaw gives a coquettist twist to her blanket when the eyes of the young brave are upon her; the South Sea Islander adjusts her waistband and necklace of flowers, which are her sole costume, when she desires to make an impression, and the women of the nineteenth century with the traditions of the past behind them, are nothing if not fashionable.

The gondolier, and the plateau hat do not seem to have palled upon womankind, in spite of their unbecomingness. A stylish hat of the gondolier shape was made of pansy velvet, faced with cloth of gold, and with an aigrette upon which swayed a jewelled humming bird with gauzy wings.

If one is at a loss for a frame on which to make the plateau hat, a card basket would be found to admirably suit the purpose, as that is the shape as nearly as it can be described. A pretty one of turquoise blue velvet, covered with silver spider webs, was exceedingly showy and unique, and to carry out the fable of the "spider and the fly," a great jet spider with ruby eyes, and a big blue-bottle fly, seemed to be enmeshed in a filmy silver web, which rested upon a knot of blue

The sweetest thing to put in the scent bottle is lavender salts, whose fragrant odor is very grateful in a crowded theatre

or ball-room. Handkerchief-holders have been revived. a woman carry her kerchief is almost as vexed a question as "is marriage a failure?" Fashion absolutely forbids us to tuck it away in our bosom or hang it to our pocket, and there seems to be no place for it either in the umbrella case skirt or in the bodice with its mysterious fastenings. Our sleeves are not like those of the Japanese belle, adapted for the purpose, and held in the hand, it invariably finds its way to the floor in some unaccountable manner. A dropped kerchief affords an excuse for flirtation, and we should keep in mind these lines of Oliver Wendell Holmes:

"Mind your kerchief most of all, Fingers touch when kerchiefs fall." COUNTESS ANNIE DE MONTAIGU.

Saved Her the Trouble.

Landlady-Let's see, Mr Impecune owes me for three weeks' board. You needn't mind dusting Mr Impecune's room this morning, Jane.

Jane-No mum; the gentleman's done Landlady-Done what?

Jane—Dusted!—Ex

Her Parting Words.

"So your wife has left you? "She has." "What were her last words on leaving you?" "Is my hat on straight?" "_Cape Cod Item.

At the Academy of Design in New York, under a "sketchy little thing" exhibited by