

IN AND OUT OF FASHION.

THE PROPER THING IN THE WAY OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Some Pretty Tailor Made Gowns and Caps That are More Than Attractive—New Designs in Footwear That are Only Improvements on the Old.

The holiday crush is once more upon us. The world and his wife—more especially his wife—is giving the whole mind to gifts and gift-making. And mighty wearing work they find, for the shops teem with—All manner of things that a woman can put on. From the crown of her head to the sole of her foot. Also about her household environment, until the embarrassment of riches is appalling. Naturally, jewelry and fancy articles have a long lead for such uses. Jewels though—that is, real ones—are out of taste, except for your nearest and dearest. Besides the very best people have brought in the fashion of gifts whose value lies in



TWO EXTREMES IN TAILOR-MADE GOWNS.

being either love-wrought, or else chosen with careful thought for the giver's taste or fancy. Indeed, many go so far as to vote costly gifts vulgar, unless in such cases as they can be recognized as the payment of a debt impossible to discharge in money.

The tailor-made gown, like the poor, we have always with us. Its present tendency is to segregation into two distinct styles—both illustrated here. The really-truly tailor-made was severely plain. One model keeps almost to that faith. It is of gendarme blue cloth, a fine light Melton, is glove-fitted, especially the skirt, and has for trimming only a piping of Astrakhan along all its seams, both waist and skirt. The hat worn with it is likewise Astrakhan trimmed, and is wonderfully smart, with its perky upstanding loops. The other gown shows what the gardeners would call



A RED CAPE AND A BROWN.

a sport for the true stock. It has gone away from simplicity with a vengeance. Its stuff is cloth with velvet accessories. Both are of the richest pansy purple. The velvet, which forms the top of sleeves and corsage and the bottom of the skirt, is wrought all over indelibly but most beautifully with a pattern of silver braid.

There is nothing very new in foot gear. New styles, so called, are mere variants of well known old ones. In evening shoes the Louis XV. heel is chosen by the best dressers, who also have both shoe and stocking to match the gown hue. If there is embroidery it is in self-color, or very near it, pearl upon white and jet upon black, steel and silver upon various tones of gray, and gold upon cream and canary. The fancy for solid metal tips—gold or



NEW DESIGNS IN FOOT GEAR.

silver—promises to be no more than a fancy, and short lived at that.

For walking shoes glove calf is coming smartly into fashion. For riding boots likewise it divides honors with patent leather. The newest riding boots sit a thought looser over the instep than those of last season, besides having a straight heel considerably higher.

The wrap of the minute, notwithstanding it is December, is the three-quarter cape with a suggestion of a coat in front. The woman who dares wears such a garment in dull red cloth, braided all over with a heavy pattern in black, and faced upon the collar and down the front with long fur. For country or carriage wear 'tis a mighty pretty fashion. On the street it is a bit too suggestive of a new Wild West. The plainer cape which may be bought in all colors is worlds better as a general utility garment. In black, dark gray, navy blue, hunter's green or tan, with a mere edge of fur, it is a most admirable wrap for the street, church or shopping. For evening it is made up in creamy tan, very light gray, white with tinsel braiding, or scarlet with an edging of soft white feathers, and is fetching world without end.

ELLEN OSBORN.

"ASTRA" TALKS WITH GIRLS.

[Correspondents seeking information in this department should address their queries to "Astra," Progress, St. John.]

It is slow work now-a-days waiting for your answers, is it not, girls? But I do not see how it can be helped just now, there are so many letters coming in every week that they will accumulate because space is limited. I really think we shall have to present a petition to the editor asking him to have our answers set in nonpareil, and then we shall be able to get in nearly double the number. Will "A Canadian in B. C." kindly read Roman church for "Norman," and vested for "settled," in last week's answer, which will entirely alter the sense of the explanation?

ROBIN HOOD, St. John.—Of course the boys are welcome in this column, especially when they are robins, for they are the favorite bird of mine. You are right, there is nothing in the world that tends to refine and improve a man so much as association with a refined and cultivated woman; and you are also right in what you say about the difficulty of keeping up such a friendship. I noticed the poem you speak of, and admired it very much. I think what you refer to must have been a typographical error, and that the author meant to say "A bit of heaven," the type does play such pranks sometimes. "Even a good woman," is hard to win, my good friend? surely you mean especially a good woman, since it is usually the frivolous ones who so easily now, while the rest often hold themselves aloof, like the fruit at the top of the tree. I never had time to study Browning sufficiently to understand him, and he does require study; it may sound like heresy to say it, but I have always considered Browning like tomatoes, a cultivated taste. Yes, there is something very mysterious indeed in woman's mind; we scarcely understand ourselves very often, and you know we really have a curious instinct which serves us as an extra sense; we reach a result by a process of intuition all our own, while you are laboriously working it out by figures. Your friend is wrong in one respect, though we often make woeful mistakes in our love affairs, and then spend our lives in regretting them. Write again. I liked your bright, sensible letter, and I hope I have answered you satisfactorily. By the way, I believe we do understand you, far better than you can ever hope to understand us.

WILL W. L. S. accept my warmest thanks for his kindness in sending me the calendar? It was the thing of all others that I needed, and I did not know where to get one.

LUCILLE, Nova Scotia.—I am delighted that you took my advice, and tried, and I think you have made a success of it, you might even amplify a little more; perhaps I have frightened you into too great brevity. Remember I am in earnest when I tell you that I think it very good, you understand, don't you? (1) You are certainly justified in expecting a fixed sum, but as I do not know anything of the publication referred to, I cannot give you any idea what it will be. (2) Usually from one to two dollars a column. (3) I have nothing whatever to do with the society department. (4) Of course what you tell me is quite between ourselves. Oh yes, my dear! The world is full of curiosity, I know, and I have met many such people as you describe. "A perfect love of a girl?" you say? Well I believe Geoffrey and the pup both think so, and I know the cat does. Let me return the compliment. I am sure you are one yourself, for there is a ring about your letter that I do not often meet with in all the hundreds I receive, and the way you spoke of that other girl who consulted me about her troubles showed a very noble, womanly heart. Ah, Lucille! I think you have been there yourself, and know a little about it; it is the only thing that can teach us some lessons—

"Love's cup but holds love's poisoned wine, And yet who fears or fails to drink knows not the powers divine."

You did not bother me in the least, and I will accept the proposed embrace and return it with interest. Write again and tell me how you get on.

MOONLIGHT.—(1) Yes indeed, I do feel very sorry for a young man under such circumstances, but what in the world did he give it up for? Perhaps you mean that he left the place where he lived? (2) It is not only wrong, but most unadvisable; he may look "awfully sweet," but you may rest assured that he does not say sweet things about girls who have so little self-respect as to smile at a man they do not know, and thus court his notice.

CLOVIS, Washington Territory.—My dear child, stick to your Eastern manners, and even if it should be the custom in the West, to countenance such extraordinary familiarities as those of which you speak. Even if it be the custom of the country a thousand times over, your own sense of propriety will tell you that it is not proper for any girl to let young men kiss her good night, and hold her hand, while they are talking to her; such liberties are not only extremely vulgar, but very far from right. The good night kiss, and the holding of the hand should be privileges reserved for your lover.

VIOLET, St. John.—As a general thing, no! but of course there are exceptions to every rule. It is one of the worst habits a girl can get into, to be keeping up correspondence with this, that, and the other, young man of her acquaintance, and she is very certain to regret it bitterly some day. No matter how harmless those letters may be, the day may come when she would willingly give a bank note in return for each of them, if she could. Suppose you were engaged to some man whom you loved very dearly, and that he had the strict ideas most men have about girls and women. Oh yes, I know what I am talking about. Suppose you heard him say some day that if he thought the girl he was engaged to had ever kept up a correspondence with any other man than himself he would break off the engagement, how would you feel, knowing that half a dozen young men had letters of yours in their possession? You may think men don't say such things, but they do; it is only a very little while since I heard a man make a remark very like that, and I felt so sorry for him, because I knew his lady-love so much better than he did, and I felt sorry for her, too. If you have a very old and intimate friend who is going, or has gone away, write to him once in a while by all means, but draw the line there and only write to true and tried friends.

DALHOUSIE.

(Continued from Twelfth Page.)

departments of engineering work, an extended course in drawing, and special study of the methods employed by civil, mechanical and mining engineers. These causes are largely similar. But the mechanical engineer devotes special attention to mechanical drawing and machine design, the civil engineer to surveying, structures, railways, etc., and the mining engineer to chemistry and mineralogy and their applications to metallurgy and assaying, as well as to mining proper.

MUNRO EXHIBITIONS AND BURSARIES.

For a number of years Mr. Geo. Munro has provided the Arts Faculty with bursaries and exhibitions, ten of the former and five of the latter being offered every year to students entering the 1st year and the same number to students entering the 3rd year. The Exhibitions are of the value of \$150 a year, and the bursaries \$200 a year and both are tenable for two years. Mr. Munro's generosity thus enables about 50 students (for the standard required at bursary examinations is high and the whole 60 are rarely awarded) to support themselves for the most part during their college course. Now that the science faculty has been instituted, these exhibitions and bursaries have been thrown open for competition to the students of both Arts and Science Faculties.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

This faculty is for the most part a board of examiners. The college provides instruction in only three of the subjects of the medical curriculum, viz., chemistry, practical chemistry and botany. All the other subjects are studied at the Halifax Medical College, whose classes are recognized as qualifying for degrees.

The matriculation examination satisfies the requirements of the British medical council, the University of Edinburgh and other leading British medical schools, so that a student who has passed it may enroll himself as a medical student in Great Britain without further examination.

The course extends over four years and includes all the usual subjects of the medical curriculum.

There are two examinations for the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Master in Surgery (M. D., C. M.),—the primary examination including anatomy (systematic and practical), physiology, chemistry, practical chemistry, botany, histology, materia medica and practical pharmacy, and the final examination including principles and practice of surgery, obstetrics and diseases of women and children, principles and practice to medicine, pathology, ophthalmology, otology, laryngology and medical jurisprudence.

Before being admitted to these examinations students must have satisfied the requirements as to attendance of lecture courses, hospitals, dispensary practice, etc. The examinations are conducted by leading practitioners in Nova Scotia.

THE LAW SCHOOL.

In 1883 Mr. Munro founded a new chair around which has grown up the law school. Dr. Weldon, M. A. of Sackville, Ph. D. of Yale, was called to fill the new chair of constitutional and international law, lecturing as well on the related subjects of constitutional history and law. This was the only endowed chair at the opening of the school, but the members of the bar with that public spirit which has always animated this noble profession at once volunteered their services and a faculty was organized composed of Honorable Mr. Justice Thompson (now Sir John Thompson), who lectured on evidence, the late Mr. Justice Rigby who was to lecture on torts, His Honor Judge Johnstone who lectured on criminal law, Hon. S. L. Shannon, Q. C., who lectured on Roman law and real property, James Thompson, Q. C., who also lectured on real property, Mr. Sedgewick Q. C., lecturing on equity jurisprudence, Mr. W. Graham, Q. C., (now Mr. Justice Graham) who lectured on marine insurance, and Mr. Russell (now Prof. Russell) who lectured on contracts.

The original staff of lecturers has greatly changed since the commencement of the school. Judge Rigby was unable in consequence of illness to take up the work assigned to him and his place was taken by Mr. John Y. Payzant who has continued lecturing on torts ever since the opening of the school. Judge Johnstone was obliged to resign in consequence of the pressure of his judicial duties and his subject was taken over by Mr. Shannon who in turn handed it over to Professor Weldon. Mr. Shannon still continued to lecture on real estate until last year when his advancing years obliged him reluctantly to retire. Judge Thompson's re-entrance into political life and consequent absence from the province made it necessary to fill his place, and Mr. C. S. Harrington, Q. C., took up the subject of evidence on which he has ever since lectured. Mr. Sedgewick's appointment as Deputy Minister of Justice made it necessary to fill his place, and the duties were accordingly assigned in part to Judge Townsend, who, for several years lectured on Equity, associated in this branch with Mr. Russell who had in the meantime been appointed a professor. Judge Graham's judicial duties obliged him to retire from the staff, and his place was well filled by Mr. E. L. Newcombe, of the firm of Drysdale, Newcombe & McInnis, and on the resignation of Judge Townsend his work was undertaken by Mr. F. T. Congden, the author of the well known Nova Scotia Digest. Mr. H. M. D. Henry, Q. C., for a couple of years lectured on Merchant Shipping, but was unable amid other engagements to give it the requisite attention and was obliged to resign.

The library owes its establishment in a large degree to the whole soul efforts of Mr. J. T. Bu'ner, who was for a number of years librarian, and collected a great many rare and valuable books; among the principal donors being Sir Adams Archibald and His Honor, Governor Daley. It would be impossible, however, to do justice in this rapid sketch to the many benefactors of the new department, and it is not possible that we shall not have overlooked a number who should be named in this connection. The Bar, as a whole, has always given the school the heartiest support, although it is in various ways against their interests to do so if they were disposed to look on the matter in a narrowly, selfish

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light. Complaint is made that their articulated clerks are no longer of any service to them, but the inconvenience is cheerfully borne in view of the improvement in the professional standard, which is the necessary and evident effect of the existence of the school. Students are drawn not only from Nova Scotia, but from New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and quite a number from the remote province of British Columbia. The school has grown in popularity and efficiency. A short extract from a leader in the college organ will show the estimation in which the school is held by the students:

"We are proud of our Law School, and we believe justly so. It is the only one in the maritime provinces, and so far as we can inform ourselves, offers better advantages than any other to the maritime law student. It draws students from all the arts colleges, and its course is designed to give legal culture and breadth to the student before he settles into the drudgery of the law office."

"We hold our instructors in the highest esteem. Dr. Weldon brings to his lectures on constitutional subjects much learning and ability. We are pleased that the course in this department is as extensive as it is, because it tends to the much to be desired effect of making intelligent citizens, as well as good case lawyers. Prof. Russell handles his subjects, which in this commercial age must be regarded as embracing the main practical part of law, with such thoroughness and vigor as to win the praise of all the students. The lecturers, who are distinguished members of the Halifax bar, perform their unpaid services with such care and attention as to merit the unqualified thanks of all."

The writer proceeds to show the necessity for further endowments and professorships, which he hopes to see established at an early day. We can only echo the wish and indulge the hope that the progress of the next eight years will equal that of the years that are gone.

College Societies and Athletics.

Ever since the "Revival of Learning," when universities began to assume something of the modern type, students have formed societies and associations for mutual aid and improvement. Prior to this period almost all students were members of religious orders, but under the new state of things a rapidly increasing number of young men were brought together who felt the need of association, and to meet the want formed various college societies. In the American colleges the chief secret societies are the Greek letter fraternities. In Canadian colleges, however, secret fraternities can scarcely be said to exist, but all of them have literary societies which add very much to the profit and enjoyment of student life. The arts students of Dalhousie have always had at least one literary society. One was started at the opening of the college in 1863 and has existed under various names ever since. It meets every week and its programme consists of debates, essays and similar exercises. Sometimes it has been in a most vigorous and flourishing condition, the speaking and papers being of a high order, while during other years it has barely maintained an existence. Thoring, in his "American Colleges," says that the open societies have generally aimed at supplementing the curriculum by affording instruction in writing and speaking, subjects rarely provided for in the teaching of the earlier colleges. This is equally true in Canada. Until quite recently scarcely any college provided training for public speaking, and very few of them could afford anything but very elementary training in English. The ordinary college societies attempted to make up for this defect, and here many students received their first lessons in public speaking. There are a good many public men in Canada today, whose voices are now heard in parliament, in the courts, and in the pulpits of the land, who can look back with gratitude to the lessons they received from their fellow-students in the class rooms of the old buildings on the Parade. Indeed few students leave the university without some pleasant recollections of hours profitably spent at these college gatherings. The strengthening of the staff and widening of the curriculum has overtaken some of the work of the society, and even with a largely increased number of students the

difficulty of keeping up the interest in the meetings is very great. When the young men are pressed with work that must be prepared, it is not wonderful that voluntary work, however profitable, will be neglected. Still there is never lacking a band of faithful workers who manage to make the meetings of the "Sodales" a success. The Medical Students have a debating society, held weekly, in which topics of general interest are discussed and papers on medical subjects are read. The Law Students have no societies. The Mock Parliament meets weekly. It discusses subjects of a political character and conducts its proceedings strictly in accordance with Parliamentary procedure. The Moot Court is conducted after the manner of the Supreme Court. One of the professors presides. Important cases are argued, and all students of the second and third year standing are compelled to take part in at least one case during the session. The student who does his part faithfully in the Moot Court is not without experience when he enters on the practice of his profession. In addition to these societies which meet in connection with the several faculties last session, the students of the whole university united in the formation of a society somewhat more advanced than any of these. It is styled the Philomathic Society, and it aims at stimulating interest in Literature, Science, and Philosophy; encouraging through study and independent investigation in special departments; giving practice in the presentation of subjects, and in the experimental illustration of lectures; and encouraging the formation of collections in Botany, Zoology, Geology, Local History, etc. Its meetings are held fortnightly, and already give promise of great usefulness. In addition to these literary and scientific societies Dalhousie has a most vigorous and flourishing Young Men's Christian association. It started about eight years ago and was the first college association in the maritime provinces. It meets every Saturday evening for conference and prayer, and has a large and interesting bible class on Sabbath afternoon. The association engages in various forms of work for the welfare of the students and is one of the most useful of the college societies. All these organizations tend greatly to the improvement of the students and form a very important part of the influence which a university exercises in moulding the character of the young men and women who spend such an important part of their lives within its walls.

A small college can seldom do much in the way of athletics. The proportion of men who will make good athletes is never large and therefore it requires a considerable attendance from which to draw a good class. Dalhousie has been improving in this matter. The one outdoor sport is foot ball. Base ball, cricket and boating, are summer sports, and as we have no summer session we never expect to excel in any of these. Our term opens with the beginning of the foot ball season and every year this many game receives more and more attention. A large number of our students come from the country. They are used to plenty of fresh air and outdoor exercise. They begin hard work in September, the month above all others when people wish to be in the open air. Change of scene and confinement in their rooms frequently tells upon their health. The foot-ball field is better than medicine. It is one of the very best forms of exercise a student can take, and there is always sufficient excitement in it to make it interesting. Of course it may be abused. Like any other form of amusement, it may take up too much time and attention. This, however, is only a tribute to its interesting character, and must be guarded against. It may be roughly, even brutally, played; but there is not the slightest necessity for this. Indeed one of the benefits of the game should be to train the temper and cultivate self-restraint. Accidents will happen, but what form of amusement is not liable to those. We have accidents in boating, bathing, skating, and almost every other form of manly sport. Indeed we believe that serious accidents occur far more frequently in any of these sports than in foot-ball. If the game is properly played there is very little fear of accident. Foot-ball is the student's game, and it would be a good thing if every man took an hour a day at it whenever the weather

permits. They would do far more in the remaining hours and be in much better health for the winter's work. Dalhousie foot-ball association began work in an informal way about twenty years ago. For many years the team was weak and scarcely dared to show itself in public, when it first dared to raise its puny arm against the giant military and civilian clubs of Halifax it was tossed about like the very ball itself. But beating did it good. It gradually won a place and a name. To beat it is now the ambition of the best clubs around us. Whether any of them can do it this year remains to be seen. Great care should be taken to prevent the noble game from assuming anything like a contest of professionals. Foot ball is a game for gentlemen and it should be carefully guarded from anything that would degrade it. For indoor athletics Dalhousie has a snug, comfortable gymnasium with two competent instructors. The chief difficulty in its management is to get the students to attend as regularly as is desired. This is the difficulty in all universities. It is hard to convince the ordinary student when the work begins to press that the hour spent in the gymnasium will help him at the examinations. He thinks he cannot afford the time. In the same way he thinks he cannot afford to give the night to sleep. No greater mistake could be made. The hollow-chested, saw-toothed, sleepless dyspeptic may goad himself to work, but he is using up his constitution, shortening his days and weakening his chances for success in after life. No student can afford to do without sleep and exercise any more than without food. When students properly understand this they will no more think of being absent from the gymnasium than from the dinner table. We hope to see the day in Dalhousie when there will be no need of urging on this point. We have a fine, well-formed, manly lot of young men. We hope that their four or six years' sojourn with us will send them forth to the battle of life with well developed bodies and well trained minds.



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