

WOMAN and HER WORK.

Next to the almost absolute disappearance of the genus grandmother, the rapid decline and fall of that once indispensable garment—the wrapper—is one of the wonders of the age. Not so very long ago, a bride could no more get decorously married and fluttering ribbons, which would be decidedly in the way of the average girl, and impede her movements to the verge of discomfort, should be considered the proper uniform for a bride to adopt, when she first takes up the reins of government



DRESSES FOR SUMMER DAYS.

The dress on the left is of oyster white India silk with white insertions laid over brown ribbons. Brown velvet is used to trim the corsage and lace laid over ribbon. The dots are brown. The figure at the right shows a purple and maize striped tulle trimmed with butter colored lace.

without a large and varied selection of wrappers, than she could take the momentous plunge without a complete stock of new underclothing, or a wedding ring of the latest design. In fact, the item "wrappers and morning dresses" headed the shopping list which the prospective bride wrote out when she started on the blissful campaign of buying her trousseau; first the morning robes, and once their welfare was looked after and the requisite number assured, it was time enough to think of the wedding and travelling dresses.

The number and beauty of the tea gowns and wrappers in a girl's trousseau seemed a sort of indication of her social standing, a guarantee of respectability so to speak; and the bride of five years ago almost reckoned her wealth by her wrappers, as the German maiden gauges her eligibility according to the number of sheets, pillow cases, towels and table cloths she can bring to the man who wins her heart.

Nearly all these garments were of the

in her husband's household. But still it is a fact that the youthful bride who did not flutter down to breakfast in a perfect cloud of turbelows and laces, to pour out her husband's coffee on the first morning after their return from the wedding tour, would have considered herself cheated out of something that belonged by right to the honeymoon.

Of course it must have been a very inconvenient style of dress to begin the duties of housekeeping in, because if its wearer entered into her new responsibilities with half the zeal and enthusiasm which is usually displayed by a very young bride, and if she has started upon her calls with the fixed determination of managing her house "just exactly as mother manages hers," and being quite as thorough a housekeeper, she will make it a rule to inspect every part of her domain each day from attic to cellar, to see that her servants were doing their duty and a pale pink or blue tea gown would be very likely to differ con-

matron of high degree who had servants to look after, and such a well filled purse that she could afford to drag her lace trimmed train over the cellar floor, circulate amongst the mysteries of the pots and pans in the scullery, and inspect the flues of the kitchen range, to see that the cook kept them clean. But to the damsel in very moderate circumstances, who has married a deserving young clerk with a large heart, but a small salary, who can either keep but one servant for her, or perhaps none at all, the tea gown was a tyrant beneath whose yoke she bowed a meek if sometimes unwilling neck. If she was doing her own work, the tea gown was a nuisance that could not be tolerated for a moment after dear Jim or dear Harry had turned the corner of the street, on his way to the office, when it immediately gave place to a compact print dress suitable for working, and quite neat enough for the bride to have worn at breakfast, if she had only thought so.

But now all this is changed, and the up-to-date bride sets out on her voyage matrimonial, sometimes with a single tea gown, to be worn only when she feels like lounging in the hammock, or has come home from a shopping expedition, too tired to get into a tight fitting dress, and more often without one garment of the wrapper family except an old fashioned dressing gown which is really intended for dressing and bedroom wear and nothing else.

The fashionable young matron no longer rustles down the stairs at breakfast time, to the froufrou of silken flounces; she trips down in a trim costume of blue or dark brown cloth, made with Eton or bolero jacket, and pink or blue shirt waist with stiff collar or cuffs and plain silk tie. Instead of dainty high heeled slippers, she wears neat little Oxford tie shoes, and when breakfast is over, she can put on her little sailor hat and walk part of the way down to the office with him, to be sure that nothing happens to him en route. If she has to be her own maid, she can slip off the jacket, put on a big apron and be all ready to preside over her own cooking stove and get dinner for herself and the best husband any girl was ever blessed with.

On the whole I think it is a very good



NEW SUMMER HATS.

The upper hat on the left side is of rough and ready with black tips and rhinestone buckle. That at the right is a turban with scarf of black dotted tulle across the front, an aigrette and four plumes, two black and two pink. The central hat is of mixed straw, lilac and green, with a large bunch of dogwood blossoms. The lower left hat is of mixed straw covered with large tea roses and foliage. The lower one at the right is also of rough straw with a large bunch of hepatica and valley lilies.

thing that the wrapper has been dethroned, and I really look upon its fall as one of the signs of the times, and an indication that the useful as well as charming woman is taking the place of the exclusively ornamented one, and that she has learned the important lesson of suiting her costume to her occupation, and being like a true soldier, always ready for action. It is impossible to associate a woman in a tea gown with anything but graceful indolence, while the shirt waist and tailor made skirt somehow suggest readiness for business, and a sense of the fitness of things, wonderfully expressive of the spirit of the age and the progress of woman, at least so far as common sense is concerned.

E. R. P., St. John.—You are quite right, it would seem ridiculous to leave such a number of cards, and your best plan would be to call on whatever day the family remain at home to receive your friends; you will then be certain to find them all at home. As it is your first call you will have to leave cards as you go out, but it will be quite sufficient to leave one of your own and two of your husband's for each of the married couples. You are never supposed to leave your husband's cards for young ladies, but if you are anxious to include them with your own cards, leave one for the young ladies of the family with the upper left hand corner turned down, though I assure you it is not necessary. It really was rather an embarrassing question for you to decide, was it not?

ASTRA.

most elaborate description, with long trains, jabots of lace extending from the throat down to the foot of the skirt, and ribbons, frills and laces in every spot where a bow or a frill could be set. I never could quite understand why the flowing draperies

siderably from such a trip; but still it was the fashion to wear it, and everybody knows a self respecting bride would sooner be out of the world at once, then out of the fashion. It was all very well for the youthful

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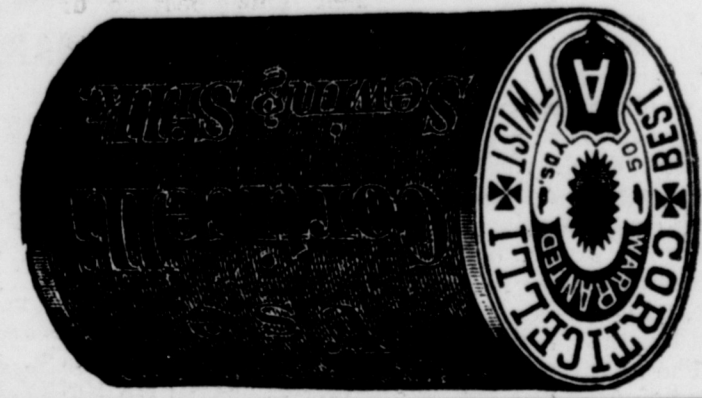
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