

WOMAN and HER WORK.

It is an old adage that when things come to the worst they mend! I don't think there is much more reliance to be placed upon this, than upon most other old adages, but still it does seem as if there must soon come a change in the manner of making skirts; as they are now, the wearer might almost as well be inclosed in chain mail so thoroughly armor plated with canvas and horsehair are they. One lady told me she really had to be very careful about sitting down in her new dress until she got used to it, because there was so much spring in the haircloth that if she sat down with reckless haste she was just as apt as not to bounce to her feet again with unexpected alacrity, and it made her nervous all the time. Dresses which have no haircloth are stiffened with rows of wire tape, and from this to the dreaded crinoline seems but a very short step.

Therefore I think we may look for a change soon and I believe the best dress-makers in New York are already making dresses guileless of haircloth, fibre chamois, wire tape or stiffening of any kind beyond a twelve inch deep facing of canvas around the bottom of the skirt.

I saw an English dress "with my own eyes" only last week, a dress that had only been over for a week or two, and it was as free from stiffening as a pocket handkerchief. The lining was of taffeta silk, it was faced to a depth of five inches with a bias fold of the same, instead of canvas, and finished with the usual piping of velvet. The skirt of course was wide, and full, but it fell in as soft folds as a dressing gown and the very novelty of the softness, caught the eye and was a relief after the eternal stiffness of things lately.

And yet the price of horsehair continues to advance until the prospects are that the horse of the future who finds his vocation as a means of locomotion gone, will only have to possess his soul in patience, and devote his time to the cultivation of a luxuriant mane and tail for the horsehair market, in order to assure his position in the world of commerce, and live in clover until the crash comes and the stiffened gown is a thing of the past, when the canned meat factory will probably be his destiny.

Here are some pretty gowns for young girls, which bear the stamp of originality, and what is more important still, good style.

India silk with a white ground covered all over with tiny bouquets of flowers, cornflowers, carnations, forget-me-nots or poppies, is one. The skirt is cut in gores, and very full, and the shirred round waist is cut out to show a chemisette of white mousseline de soie spangled with silver. The collar and belt are of white satin ribbon, and rosettes of the same trim the waist and the three quarter length sleeves.

A very pretty cotton gown of the more dressy description is of white duck, which has little bunches of red, and blue flowers scattered over the surface, almost like the silk gown described above. The skirt is in full circular shape, and the blazer coat has a deep sailor collar of striped red and white duck extending over the shoulders, and pointed cuffs of the same trim the leg of mutton sleeves. With this dress is worn an adjustable front of fine white lawn, and yellow valenciennes lace, with collar of the same, having the odd paquin points or laps, turned over a neckband of red taffeta ribbon. A folded belt of the same ribbon finished the waist, and a large hat of yellowish rough straw trimmed with loops of red ribbon, and poppy buds is worn with the dress.

Another pretty dress of wash silk, shows a pale blue ground with fine white and blue stripes. The flaring circular skirt is untrimmed, and the waist is brought down in fine plaits just below the waistline, slightly pointed at front, and back, and cut short over the hips, the edge is trimmed with a soft-folded belt of the material, finished by a square bow in the back. The sleeves are plain, and cut in full leg of mutton shape. The trimming of the waist is adjustable, and consists of a very rich collar and yoke of heavy yellowish guipure vandycks, and deep lace frill to match. Similar vandycks trim the cuffs.

A feature of the millinery this summer is the immense rhinestone buckle which makes one think of the crown jewels worn by stage kings and queens. They are quite "the thing" however, and the more swell the milliner the larger the buckles she uses to decorate her works of art. But as the one test of a hat this season is its becomingness it really does not matter much how it is trimmed.

The ever popular sailor is with us again but it is not as pretty as it used to be, by any means. It has a high box crown, a narrow brim, and no trimming beyond the flat band and bow usually seen on men's straw hats. If they are becoming nothing could be more desirable as a head gear, but if they are not, woe betide the woman who persists in wearing one because it is the fashion, because when they are good they are very very good, but when they are bad they are horrid. The sailor with a moderate crown, and slightly wider brim, like those worn last year are trimmed with a close wreath of wild flowers made by blending together bunch after

bunch of marigolds, violets daisies and and primroses. The wreath is so soft and thick, that it almost covers the hat only leaving a glimpse of the edge of the brim and the top of the crown visible.

There is a curious difference between the way men, and women love! The man insists that his love is the deepest and strongest, the warmest, but most reckless, and generally the best, but he is willing to admit that perhaps in some cases woman's love lasts a little the longest, and is perhaps more of a self sacrificing nature, than the masculine brand. But the radical difference between the two emotions is the standpoint from which the question of rivals is viewed. A man hates a rival of any kind, he is such a self conscious creature that he wants to be first always, not only in the present, but if such a thing were possible, in the past also. I don't know whether it is that he distrusts his own attractions, or doubts his power of holding what he has won, but certain it is that he cannot brook the thought of the woman he loves ever having had a lover before. He wants to pluck the flower not only before any rude hand has touched it, but before any other eye than his own has gazed upon its beauties. The most respectful admiration he regards as a sort of profanation, and at heart I believe he sympathizes warmly with "the turbaned Turk who scorns the world"—and keeps his numerous wives securely locked away from all eyes but his own.

I heard a sensible man say once, that in his estimation no woman should ever have more than one lover, and she should marry him. Every added admirer was a drawback in his eyes and took away just a little of the dew from the rosebud, and the bloom from the peach. An admirer implied encouragement, he argued and no girl should give a man the least encouragement unless she meant to marry him. A man expected to have love affairs himself he said, but of course that was a different matter, men were differently constituted, and so the same rules could not be made to apply to them. They lived in the world and were of it, while woman should be sheltered and preserved from even a breath of suspicion. Their lives should be like a sheet of white paper and to be admired by this man, and sought by that, was far from being a credit to any girl.

It sounded very exalted and beautiful no doubt, but utterly impracticable and I think, very selfish. "Flirt with every woman you meet, if she will let you, but despise her in your heart for accepting your attentions" is the way it seems to me to read. And then look out for some sweet modest violet of a girl who has scarcely ever spoken to a man before, and crown her with the diadem of perfect womanhood. It does not seem quite fair, because with the very best intentions in the world the most modest and retiring of us will get found out sometimes! Some man is sure to discover that we are there, and being there, that we have pretty ways or bright eyes, and want to gather in those charms for his very own. It stands to reason that girls cannot be kept in glass cases now-a-days, nor can they all be brought [up in secluded parts of the country far from the busy haunts of men. Neither can they be compelled to love the first man who wants them. Why I have known very nice girls who found it impossible to lavish the wealth of their young heart's first affection, upon any of the half dozen suitors who appeared. It so happened that they were not nearly so easily pleased as they are supposed to be, but exercised the prerogative which is believed to belong exclusively to men, and took time to make a careful choice.

I believe there would be fewer unhappy marriages if girls only had the courage to take their time and make a careful choice, passing over the ineligible candidates and waiting patiently for the right one to appear. "You had better take him" says the worldly wise relative. "He is a very fair match and a good enough fellow; lots of girls would snap at him, and you may not have another offer as good." So the girl stifles down the question in her heart whether she loves him or not, accepts what she considers her fate, and half the time lives to regret it bitterly.

Now a woman loves a rival—an unsuccessful one of course, and nothing gives her such exquisite pleasure as to hear about the girls who have loved her husband. That he might have loved them does not seem to occur to her. She loves to get the history of each female photograph he possesses, and even when they have no history she persists in imagining one for them. Each predecessor is an added victim to the wheels of the chariot in which she sits in triumph. All these had their chance, each one enjoyed for a time the sunshine of his favor, clever, beautiful and attractive as they must of course have been to win his notice at all, yet each and all were lacking in some essential, and so they failed to hold the treasure that lay within their grasp, while she, only she, was found worthy to wear the crown, and occupy the throne as queen of his heart. She is so proud of those predecessors of hers that she almost

loves them so long as her husband shows no disinclination to talk about them. Whenever he lights upon the photo of a pretty girl, in some unexpected corner of his desk she is rather pleased than the contrary if he tells her, "That is a girl I was awfully broken up on, the year before I met you, and a beauty she was too!" But just let him show the least disposition to evade the subject or simply say, "Its a girl I used to know once," and if a bad half hour does not supervene for him then I am no judge of my sex, that's all!

It is a strange world, when all is so sad and done and perhaps it is just as well we do not all think alike.

A correspondent writes to ask me where she can obtain the face brush I described two weeks ago, as an essential feature of Diane de Mornay's beauty culture. Somehow the procuring of the brush was a difficulty I had not foreseen, and I don't know how to solve it, as the brush is the first requisite of the treatment, but the only remedy will be to get some druggist to import a few of the brushes. Nearly all druggists are willing to try a new thing, as the procuring of a novelty is always a good advertisement; or they will send away for any special article, in order to oblige their customers.

My correspondent also sensibly asks me if I do not think that interference with the skin, and the constant use of creams and unguents, however harmless, tends to injure rather than improve the complexion. Some of the people who take no care whatever of their skins, she says, possess far better complexions than others who are always trying new remedies and using every possible means to improve themselves.

This is quite true, but it must be borne in mind that medical and surgical appliances are not for well people, but sick; the child with perfectly developed straight limbs has no need of steel splints to support him, but the weak boned bow-legged child who suffers from rickets or some similar disease, must have the benefit of every device modern skill has invented in order to prevent him from growing up a cripple. It is the same with the complexion. Some people are born with such perfect skins that even sun and wind never seems to affect it; they never freckle or tan and they do not know what a pimple means, except on other people. They get the credit of having the most exquisitely delicate skins when the fact is that their skins are really so tough a fibre that they are not sensitive to changes of temperature, and can stand wind, rain and sun, with impunity. They never take any care of their complexion for the simple reason that they have never been obliged to do so, nature has looked after it for them, and they have taken no more thought about it than the much quoted lily of the field. But the unfortunate damsel whose face is mottled with freckles, and whose complexion is the despair of her life, is the one who has the delicate skin, and who needs to take the best possible care of it.

It is true that some skins would be ruined by the constant application of even the best cold creams, or soothing applications, but then it must also be remembered that all such preparations are skin foods, and designed to supply the inevitable wasting of the tissues which begins as soon as the first bloom of youth is past. To go into the physiology of the matter each skin is underlaid with a thin layer of fat, a delicate cushion which I can only liken to the thin sheet of wadding which a good dressmaker places between the lining and the material of a rich satin dress-train, to give it softness, and "body." It is the wasting of this which causes wrinkles and fades the most beautiful face, and the object of cold cream, cocoa nut, or cod liver oil, and all the lubricants which professional masseurs rub into the face and neck, is to supply as far as possible the lack of this soft cushion. For a coarse oily skin, any kind of grease, however daintily prepared, would be suicidal if used frequently, but it is a boon to the dry wrinkly skin which burns in wind or sun, and always feels chippy and parched.

The rubbing is never done roughly, nor should it irritate the skin. The object is to bring the blood to the surface, and induce free circulation which re-vivifies the skin, and tends to preserve its beauty and freshness. I have heard it frequently stated that the constant use of vaseline, or cold cream will soon induce a fine growth of hair on the face, but I have yet to meet with one well authenticated case where the growth of hair could be directly traced to the use of cold cream. A growth of the kind is quite common, and was quite common before face creams were in at all general use, and many persons who have never used any such preparation in their lives have a decided crop of down on their cheeks and lips; so I have no small faith in the dismal predictions I hear concerning the future of those who, like myself, are addicted to the cold cream habit in moderation.

IGNORANCE, St. John—The lady who invites you is your hostess, and you owe the call to her, in the case you mention, but under such circumstances it is quite usual to call on both, so that neither should feel slighted, as people are often very sensitive about such things.

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R.I.P.A.N.S
ONE GIVES RELIEF.

I have answered your questions at some length, in another part of this column. I do not think I would recommend the rubber complexion brush, as it would be rather harsh for a delicate skin, and I am sorry to say I cannot give you much information about the camel's hair eruber; you will have to get some friend to bring you one from the United States, or get a druggist to send for one. I do not think the duty would be very much. I would be very careful about the preparations I used, if I were you, and I am very certain that all the cold creams advertised are not safe to use. But all the cosmetics prepared and sold by Miss Mootie of the Gervase Institute Toronto, are not only harmless but excellent, and a cold cream which I have used myself for years, is the vaseline cold cream, put up in little metal covered porcelain pots by the Cheeseboro Manufacturing Company. It is perfectly pure. The one for which Madame de Mornay gave the recipe, and which I published the week before last is easily made at home, and I know it to be a good one, and I am sure it would not injure the most delicate skin. Try massage before going to bed rubbing the cold cream thoroughly into the face, and then washing it off with quite hot water in the morning.

A remedy in which I have great faith, but which is too troublesome to win very general favor, is the bread and milk wash, or poultice applied warm at night, worn all night, and then removed and carefully washed off with hot water in the morning. It is a wonderful feeder, and freshener of the skin, but such a nuisance. Many thanks for your appreciative words.

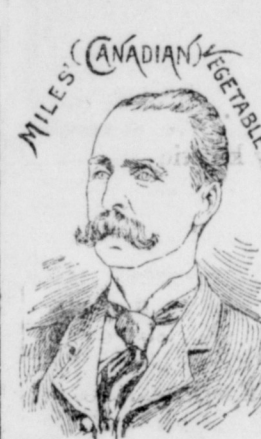
ASTRA.

Renovating Summer Gowns.

Just a word to the woman who, planning to renovate her last summer's gown so as to make them presentable for this summer, may find this hint of practical value. A style that is very useful, especially if one is renovating the bodice, is to cut it in a low square back and front, filling this open space with some new bright contrasting material in silk or satin. To conceal the joining use a twisted ribbon, a row of jetted gimp, or a band of velvet with rosettes and shoulder bows for additional trimming. If the sleeves are more voluminous for the present fashion, large puffs may be added, matching the silk or satin gimp, using the best portions of the old sleeves for the forearm part of the new sleeves, or a very full ruffle of lace may be set above the original sleeve, thus producing a distended appearance from shoulder to shoulder.

Many other devices are resorted to for changing sleeves that are not wide enough such as pointed insertions of piece velvet or insertion bands of gimp jet lace, or ribbon, producing a striped effect; also Hungarian caps, shoulder capes, epaulets and narrow puffs set in full at the top of the sleeve and tapering to a point at the elbow.

Velvet, moire, and satin ribbon, both plain and fancy are very popular trimmings for nearly all gowns for demi-dress, a fact that the thrifty renovator should take advantage of. Ribbon possesses a present advantage over lace where much trimming is used. The latter cannot now be appropriately used to trim dresses for day wear, but ribbon, on the contrary, can be used advantageously on every sort of gown indiscriminately, so to speak, if the colors are carefully selected, and choice of width and disposal are alike subject to intelligent consideration. When one is in doubt, black or dark velvet ribbon is the safe choice.—Providence Journal.



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Accommodation for P. du Chene	10.10
Express for Halifax	12.15
Express for Quebec and Montreal	12.55
Express for Sussex	13.00
Express for Quebec and Montreal	22.00

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TRAINS WILL ARRIVE AT ST. JOHN

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Through express from Montreal and Quebec (Monday excepted)	8.05
Express from Sussex	8.30
Accommodation from P. du Chene	12.55
Express from Halifax	13.50
Express from Halifax, Pictou and Campbellton	18.30

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D. POTTINGER, General Manager, Railway Office, Montreal, N. B., 20th June, 1895.

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