

WOMAN and HER WORK.

Sackcloth has always been connected with ashes and penitence in most properly constituted minds, and the mere sound is suggestive of lent, and self-abnegation, fasts, and convents. Therefore it is a shock to all one's ideas of fitness, to hear that the gay Parisiennes have actually adopted it as a fabric to make gowns of, and evening gowns at that! When there are so many beautiful materials to choose from, it is hard to understand just where the famous Parisian good taste is shown in the selection of anything so rough, coarse, and altogether unlovely as sackcloth, which has always been used to typify everything coarse and unlovely. That its cheapness is not the quality which commends it, is shown by the descriptions of the garments evolved from it, since they are lined throughout with the thickest and most lustrous white satin, which, we read gleams through the thick meshes of the dull hued sackcloth supplies the necessary stiffness and makes the sackcloth striking rather than commonplace, if indeed sackcloth ever could seem commonplace in a ballroom. Silks and satins seem but tame affairs in comparison! I should rather think they would! Anything that one had always been accustomed to would be likely to have a common every-day appearance beside a gown of begging, to which—"The necessary modish touches are supplied by a deep band of white satin about the bottom of the skirt overlaid with old jaspure lace, and a collar and sash of the same, the collar made iridescent with tiny jams usually in the form of small bags and butterflies. "Oae beauty of such a costume" the fashion writes who deserves it, assures us,—"is that any flowers may be worn with it, or any variety of jewels" Oae would indeed think that any decoration would seem equally out of place and bizarre. The fact that this extraordinary costume was originated and worn by a titled dame of high social position, may perhaps account for the prominence given it in fashion journals, and also for its very extensive imitation, hundreds of sackcloth evening dresses made of the objectionable material, being already in course of construction, and sackcloth promising to enjoy quite as extensive a vogue, as hosacking did, two or three years ago.

The jacket bodice shows no diminution of popularity, though of course there are many varieties of the original coat barque one of which, a blue serge, has a double box plait down the back, held down by a narrow belt of green alligator skin, which shows only across the back, and the blouse vest, passing through the side seams, underneath the front of the coat. The Eton coat which has never been quite dead, is occasionally seen, and shows the same fitting back and large revers in front which have always distinguished it. Such coats are worn over full blouses of Persian patterned silk, or some of the many pretty pin head checks, which are always fashionable in summer. Checked wool goods are to



A COUNTRY GOWN.

be very much worn this season, and are either made up into entire gowns, or shirts which have coats of plain cloth: for instance, a skirt of navy blue and white in eighth of an inch checks has a plain coat of navy blue cloth, worn over a soft blouse vest of white silk, or a shirt waist; while another of brown and white, has the coat of plain brown cloth. Blue, brown, tan, and gray, seem to be the popular colors for the tailor made gowns, which every woman who can afford it, supplies herself with in the spring, and some decided contrast in color, for vest, facings and linings is essential, to make the dress strictly fashionable. strange, as it sounds blue with green accessories is most desirable, and yellow, pink, heliotrope, and some of the shades of violet are also favorite shades for cloth gowns, and white is the usual contrast for facings and vests. Braiding is in high favor both on coats and vests, but yet quite a

goodly number of the prettiest jacket waists are made perfectly plain with all the decoration centered in the vest and silk faced revers.

A costume of violet cloth has a perfectly plain shirt, and a plain closely buttoned coat of the cloth opening over a stiff linen shirt front, and standing collar. Revers and cuffs of white cloth braided around the edges in violet and gold, relieve the plainness of the costume. The open coats which display a soft full front of lace and chiffon, or silk, are popular with most well dressed women because the fancy vest always makes the dress more becoming. The variety in these dainty full fronts, is almost beyond description, everything that is pretty seeming to enter into their construction. But fronts of sheer white linen lawn, finely tucked in clusters, and with narrow valenciennes edging sewn to the edge of one tuck in each cluster, or with narrow insertions of the same lace set in between each cluster, will be quite as much worn as they were last year. Eoru batistes made up in the same way is also used. The close fitted vests in tailor style are made of white silk, white cloth, and all kinds of novelty vesting, but later in the season they will be made of pique, in white, and all pale tints. The newest linen shirt front fastens in the back, and over the high standing collar is a narrow tie of satin which fastens in a little bow in front.

Very English gowns have the close sleeve, but these are very extensive, and the modified mutton leg finds much more general favor. The feature of the season in trimming is undoubtedly the button, and pecks of small buttons are used. It does not seem to matter what the material of the button is, so long as it is a button, and small. Perhaps the small gold ones have the preference, but tiny silver buttons are very effective when used in profusion, and as for those of iridescent pearl, they are simply exquisite. The effect of these made buttons when properly grouped, or put on in a stated pattern, is like jewel trimming, and the lights and shades they display in the sun, are indescribably charming. Eight and ten dozen may be put on a single coat, or basque without its seeming in the least overloaded.

A pretty model of green cloth shows a double breasted coat made quite close fitting, with a basque frill beginning on the hips and extending across the back; the double breast is outlined in front with two double rows of small silver buttons far apart at the bust, and narrowing down almost to a point at the waist line. A wide Directoire collar falls over the shoulders, and is finished with three folds of gray cloth on the edge. Narrow panels of the gray cloth trim each side of the front breadth, with narrow straps buttoning across them at regular intervals. Waists of different material from the skirt and sleeves still hold their own place among the fashions of the day, but many of the new dresses show skirt, bodice and sleeves all alike. One very pretty model is of dark blue canvas. The back of the bodice is plain, seamless, and embroidered in narrow stripes from neck to belt, with fine beads in gold, bronze, steel and copper. The front has a yoke of apricot brocade, and below it are more stripes of the embroidery. The sleeves are rather small, and pointed epaulettes covered with lines of the embroidery fall over them. ASTRA.

SERVICEABLE SUMMER GOWNS.

That Will be Worn by Fair Belles During the coming Season.

A rough wash stuff in white and ecru linen shades, that imitates Turkish toweling, is a new material for useful morning frocks for both the small and big fry.

It is indeed called Turkish toweling, and though it is commonly used alone the white is sometimes combined effectively with colored duck.

The illustration with the belted blouse and plain skirt show this combination the blouse being in the white towel stuff and the skirt belt and neck band in butter yellow duck.

In any of the ecru shades, as well as the white, this serviceable bath robe texture will also be found admirably suited to yachting purposes. Any of the duck and linen suit models may be used for it, and has the added virtues of washing easily and not needing to be ironed.

In the embroidered linen is given a trim design for an all-day costume for a young lady.

The coloring is the regulation unbleached linen shade, with white figures in raised embroidery. With this toilet also white trimming is used and takes the shape of a big eccentric sailor collar and bias belt of white canvas. Then there is a soft becoming bow of white silk muslin at the throat, and trimmings of the same on the sailor hat, together with green wings and a bunch of pink clover blossoms.

The treasures of this dainty lot, however, are the last two costumes. These are of the blue-sash variety, dear to the male heart, and if they are not calculated to do deadly damage some hot June day, then the foresight of the prophet goes for naught.

A delicate Indian dimiti, in a weave such as fairies spin, and patterned with pale little green leaves between narrow pink stripes, is the material of the morning frock.

The round full bodice is simply gathered, and finished at the waist, throat and sleeve bottoms with white taffeta ribbons striped with pink and green. The skirt is plain but on the bodice a highly ornamental collar is made of thin apple-green lawn edged with footing in a delicate yellow. The fronts of the collar are tacked down to form Figaro effects at the sides of the body. This will be found extremely becoming to very slight figures. And then the coloring—just picture that tender green and the baby pink on a red-headed girl! Then add to this a big leghorn hat with sprays of the white water-plant, which shows so much pale green, and bows and "streamers" of pink taffeta ribbon.

This done, if that red-headed girl does not put the rest of the summer contingent in the shade it will be because heaven has balanced her glorious coloring with a cruel share of plainness.

A new variety of white embroidered muslin is the texture of the last gown. This charming material imitates the old tambour-worked muslins of our great-



A TUCKED LINEN.

grandmothers' days, producing faithfully the same fragile vines and sprays done in simple back-stitch.

The new embroidery is of course machine made, but a delicate yellowing of some of the muslins gives a mellow suggestion of age.

The gown shown is in pure white over maize yellow silk. The bodice lining is cut low in the neck and is made without sleeves.

All the insertions of the outside are of real Valenciennes lace and white taffeta ribbon in a belt, stock and bows, finishes with simple elegance the bodice.

With all this summer finery, of course correct parasols are no unimportant detail. For the thin dressy frocks there are parasols that are almost like bouquets with their masses of flowers and flounces of chiffon.

But china handles finish the smartest of them all; and now the very naivest thing with these is to have the hand rest a bird or animal head, that of a black cat or a pug dog, or a poll parrot or a friendly-looking monkey.

A nice old barnyard rooster with a shrill whistle hidden in his red comb, was the unique design of an expensive imported handle. NINA FITCH.

SILVER GLOSS STARCH

IS THE "OLD RELIABLE" LAUNDRY STARCH. HOUSEKEEPERS WHO HAVE TRIED IT AND THEN OTHER MAKES ALWAYS RETURN TO "SILVER GLOSS." THOSE WHO HAVE NOT TRIED IT SHOULD DO SO AT ONCE.

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Starches made by the Edwardsburg Starch Co., L't'd., are always reliable.

THEIR LEADING BRANDS ARE

Benson's Canada Prepared Corn } FOR COOKING.
Silver Gloss Starch, } FOR LAUNDRY.
Enamel Starch, }

Miss Jessie Campbell Whitlock
TEACHER OF PIANOFORTE.
ST. STEPHEN, N. B.

The "Leschetzky Method"; also "Synthetic System," for beginners.
Apply at the residence of
Mr. J. T. WHITLOCK.

FOR SPRING AND SUMMER.



A Light,
Low,
Cool Shoe

Is a necessity to comfort. Our Shoes afford the feet the most delightful housing that can possibly be provided, and are a practical treatise on **WALKING MADE PLEASANT AND EASY.**

Ill fitting shoes cause no end of annoyance and pain. With our stock a perfect fit in a first class shoe is a very easy matter.

WATERBURY & RISING,

61 King and 212 Union Street.

RIPANS

ONE GIVES RELIEF.

OF FALLEN FORTUNE.

DECEASED SOUTHERN GENTLE-WOMEN FIND A HOME.

A Beautiful and Unique Charity Organized by a Lovely Creole-La Societe Hospitaliere of New Orleans and its Present Quarters Described.

Perhaps the most unique and beautiful charity in America is that of La Societe Hospitaliere of New Orleans. Its members charge themselves with the housing and partial maintenance of as many gentlewomen of decayed fortune as their means will permit.

Early in the seventies there died in New Orleans a certain Mr. Henderson, who left a sum of money, the interest of which was to be distributed monthly among the needy in the American quarter, and in the French district. Mdlle. Correjolle, a Creole lady, was chosen as almoner for Frenchtown, and in the course of her ministrations found many ladies of aristocratic lineage and once splendid fortune, who had been beggared by the war and were now living in abject and squalid poverty.

To these women of gentle breeding all of the privations and hardships of poverty were easy to be borne in comparison with the poignant misery of a life spent in a squalid tenement, and in contact with a low, ignorant and often debased class of people. This was the daily crucifixion over which they groaned and prayed God to deliver them.

Mdlle. Correjolle was soon convinced that if these ladies could be decently housed, and having no rent to meet, that

society grew richer, gave fetes and fairs, and at last Mdlle. Correjolle was triumphant. La Societe had money enough to buy a house. In March, 1893, an old time, home-looking Creole dwelling was bought, and thirty-five ladies, as many as it could accommodate, were invited to make this their home.

Each lady has her room to herself, and as the Creole clings with tenacity to her ancestral belongings, it so happens that rooms are all comfortably furnished, some in antique mahogany or rosewood, with a few pieces of fine porcelain or crystal or marble. The floors are bare, but most beautifully clean, each occupant doing every bit of the work of her own menage. The entire place is a marvel of cleanliness and order.

The one kitchen is common to all, but many prefer to prepare their meals in their own rooms.

There are few restrictions imposed, no more than are usual in any well ordered family. Each one's privacy is inviolable; she is as secure from the prying eyes of curious visitors as though she were in her own house.

It is easy to see that the family code was framed by a lady, sympathetic to the heart's core. And indeed Mdlle. Correjolle is grande dame to the tips of her fingers, gentle and soft-voiced, and a born organizer. La Societe also furnishes its proteges with coal and their daily bread. But all are skillful needle-women, who have as many orders as they can fill. Several make lace, exquisite embroideries and artificial flowers for church altars. Their earnings are

All of these well born women were once rich. The stories of their descent into the avenues of poverty would make agonizing reading.

La Maison Hospitaliere is on Barracks street, where, in the ancient days of garrisoned New Orleans, trumpets blared and soldiers marched, and where many a gay and sparkling Frenchman loitered. But now the street is still and quiet. If you enter the little wicket at the side of La Maison you are ushered into a pleasant spacious courtyard, set about with parterres of roses and the pot plants of the inmates. At the farther end of the court is enshrined the image of Our Lady of the Prompt Succor, and at one side is a pretty little chapel. These spring afternoons the ladies bring their chairs out into the pleasant air to enjoy the tepid air scented with orange blossoms and sweet olive and roses, and hold a comfortable causerie. What a plucking of intricate genealogies from oblivion! What a snatching of kindreds and friends from the darkness, and what a reweaving of them into living realities for their old hearts to feed upon. Then one will recall how another was the belle at a celebrated ball and what toilettes magnifiques both wore, and then with inimitable drolerie contrast with it their dress of today. And how they adore their guardian angel, Mdlle. Correjolle, whose face is cut like a cameo, whose skin is like a rose leaf, whose eyes are soft and brown and loving, whose heart is as tender and whose charity as great as that of Jean Valjean.

LYLIE O. HARRIS.



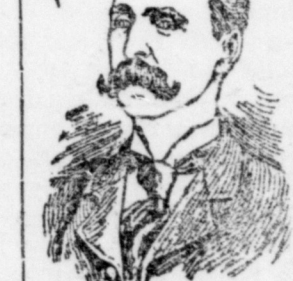
IN THE COURT-YARD.

they could managed to earn enough to buy their own food and clothing. But how to compass this was her great perplexity. However, ce que femme veut, Dieu veut. She began to work for La Maison Hospitaliere, in which to shelter some of these unfortunate ladies. In 1879 she organized La Societe Hospitaliere on a small scale. Membership dues were only 10 cents a month, but each was to interest as many persons as possible in the project and to get their aid. With the money thus raised the society rented a few rooms and installed within them a limited number of ladies. But the

small but then their wants are few. They dress plainly and their simple food which they make savory in the cunning Creole fashion, does not cost many sous each day. And they all seem so contented, so cheerful and buoyant, some even full of gay badinage.

It is quite true that none of ces dames de la Maison give any luncheons, or pink teas, yet not a day passes but Mdlle. de presents with her compliments some little delicatesses to Mdlle.—or Veuve de la —begs Madame La Generale to be kind enough to share with her some dainty just sent her by a friend.

"HEALTH FOR THE Mother Sex."



COMPOUND

Women who have been prostrated for long years with Pro-lapsus Uteri, and illnesses following in its train, need no longer stop in the ranks of the suffering. Miles' (Can.) Vegetable Compound does not perform a useless surgical operation, but it does a far more reasonable service.

It strengthens the muscles of the Uterus, and thus lifts that organ into its proper and original position, and by relieving the strain cures the pain. Women who live in constant dread of PAIN, recurring at REGULAR PERIODS, may be enabled to pass that stage without a single unpleasant sensation.

Four tablespoonfuls of Miles' (Can.) Vegetable Compound taken per day for (3) three days before the period will render the utmost ease and comfort.

For sale by all druggists. Prepared by the A. M. C. MEDICINE CO., 136 St. Lawrence Main St., Montreal. Price 75 cents.

Letters from suffering women will be opened and answered by a confidential lady clerk if addressed as above and marked "Personal." Please mention this paper when writing. Sold by all druggists.