

Woman and Her Work

It seems very much like forcing the season to talk about spring dresses in the very earliest days of February and when winter seems to have only just settled fairly down to his work; but all the same the fashion oracles assure us that the tailor made costume for the early spring has not only been under discussion, but had every detail of its construction decided upon fully a month ago.

Let it not be imagined that by braiding, the simple application of some easily manipulated braid, in either straight lines, or some conventional design is meant; the braiding of this season is most elaborate and consists largely of silk cords, an infinite variety of which have been lately introduced and the patterns into which they are worked are almost too numerous for description.

A lovely new cloth which is seen in the new spring gowns is called "bishop's violet" and is a shade of bluish purple, which is charming on a brunette with plenty of color, or a very clear skinned blonde. Such a dress richly braided surpasses in elegance anything past. Some of the combinations in these handsome costumes are rather startling, but fashion says they are perfectly correct, so of course they must be.

This panel decoration is seen on many of the new skirts, and where neither panel nor large pattern is used, what is called a "rose and dart" design ornaments the bottom of the skirt. It is said amongst fashion authorities that not two skirts out of a hundred leave the maker's hands without some decoration at the hem. There are two new and very elegant braids shown for the purpose of skirt trimming, one is a broad satin finished band which looks just like a wide piping of satin when sewn on, and the other is a rough silk and wool braid known as procupine soutache.

With these suits, which will consist of a coat the skirts of which will come well down over the hips, and a plain or moderately braided skirt, will be worn silk, shirt-waists sometimes in bright plaids, or self colors, and sometimes in either black or cream, as the wearer's taste may dictate.

The newest coats are all double breasted and buttoned invisibly, while all the new tailor basques are draped in some fashion. A tight plain basque means last year's dress, and it is to look up-to-date, it must have some drapery added. A very popular style is a double box-pleat drapery falling loosely from the neck, to just below the bust, and as it tends to decrease the apparent size of the waist, disguise a thin figure and render stoutness less apparent. There is much to be said in its favor.

One noteworthy feature of the early spring, as well as the late winter fashions, is the decline of the once all powerful rever; it is still seen but greatly diminished in size and no longer decorated with buttons, or overlaid with lace, and embroidery. Another is the total disappearance of the white linen dickey or collar, except where an entire white shirt waist is worn, the tailor made girl shows no line of white, to relieve her dark gown. Instead she has her high dark cloth neck band brightened by a quilling of geranium colored satin, or a straight, and narrow turnover band of some bright lined satin, or silk. The sleeves of these dresses are set into the armhole with three boxplaits at the top, and the wrists are finished in one of three ways—with a flaring drop cuff reaching down to the knuckles, a short bell cuff turning back from the hand, or else with braided lines. Buttons are used with a spring hand which is in marked contrast with the prodigal use made of them last summer, and when they are employed, they are as inconspicuous as possible.

Amongst the newest materials for spring use are many old favorites come back under slightly different guise. The blue and black mohair serges face cloth, and camel's hair, are shown in very new shades, pine-green, and pheasant brown being the very latest. For travelling suits quite a number of real tartans in sombre colors, such as the Black—Watch—or Forty Second. Start, Fife, and Gordon. These are made up with linings of the brightest fancy plaid silks, and are doubtless very stylish if somewhat startling.

INCIDENTS IN A MEMORABLE LIFE

Rosa Bonheur's Memoirs and Personal Reminiscences.

Rosa Bonheur has just published her autobiography in Paris. It appears that before she took to painting, she was apprenticed to a dressmaker. Then she began coloring kaleidoscopic views. Her first picture was a bunch of cherries. Later on she made copies in the Louvre where her strange costume and independent air won for her the nickname of 'The Little Hussar.'

The 'Little Hussar' grew rapidly. In 1853 Rosa Bonheur exhibited the 'Horse Fair,' which was bought by M. Gambard for 40,000 francs. It was exhibited in the United States, and brought in 300,000 francs.

'In 1858,' she says, 'I bought the property of By in the heart of the forest of Fontainebleau, where I still live today. I gave 50,000 francs for it, and built a big studio. The Emperor gave me permission to hunt in the forest around my own park. I lived there happily, receiving the visits of a few intimate friends, and working as well as I could. In 1865 I was busy one afternoon with my pictures. I had upon my easel the 'Stags in the Long Rocher,' when I heard the cracking of a postillon's whip and the rolling of a carriage. My little maid, Olive, rushed into the apartment in a state of excitement.

'Mademoiselle! Mademoiselle!' she exclaimed. 'Her Majesty, the Empress!'

'I just had time enough to put a petticoat over my trousers and to take off my long blue blouse and replace it with a velvet jacket.

'I have here,' said the Empress, a little jewel which I bring to you on the part of the Emperor. He authorizes me to announce to you your enrollment in the Legion of Honor.'

'The Empress kissed the new knight and pinned the cross upon the black velvet jacket. A few days afterward I received an invitation to dine at the imperial court, in Fontainebleau. On the appointed day they sent a gala carriage for me. I went to the wrong door when I arrived, and came near losing my way, when M. Mocquard came to my relief by giving me his arm. I was seated beside the Emperor, and during the entire repast he spoke to me about the intelligence of animals. Then the Empress brought me out upon the lake.

'At Fontainebleau I live like a peasant. get up early and go to bed late. Every morning at an early hour I make a tour of the garden with my dog, and after that take a drive in my pony cart in the forest of Fontainebleau. At 9 o'clock I am seated before my easel, and I work till half-past 11. Then I breakfast very simply, smoke a cigarette, and glance over the newspapers. I take my brushes again at 1 o'clock, and at 5 o'clock I make another excursion. I love to see the setting sun behind the great trees of the forest. My dinner is as modest

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as my breakfast. I finish the day by reading. I prefer the books on travel, hunting, and history.

'Before commencing a picture I study my subject thoroughly, preparing myself for it by an attentive and careful observation of nature. I seek the kind of sky and land suitable to my idea, and I never make a feature without studying it. My only guide is the desire to reach truth and simplicity as closely as possible. Study and work never tire me. They are today as they have been during all my life, my greatest happiness; because assiduous work is the only thing that will bring one near the solution of the problem, which is perhaps insoluble, of everchanging nature. It is a problem which, more than any other elevates the mind by filling it with thoughts of justice, goodness, and charity.'

An American Girl.

He—What do you call a real typical American girl? She—One who prefers an heir in the castle to a castle in the air.

Manly Sarcasm.

'Papa, what is a 'bicycle built for two?'' 'Your mother's my child. She rides it and I have to take care of it.'

A LEGACY OF DISEASE.

VETERANS OF THE WAR REPAID IN SUFFERING AND DISEASE.

For Over Twenty Years Mr. John Sherman Sought Release from the Tortures of Inflammatory Rheumatism.

From the Prescott Journal. There is no man in the township of Edwardsburg who is better known than Mr. John Sherman. He is one of the many Canadians who at the outbreak of the American rebellion, joined the army of the North, and to the exposures and hardships which he endured during that trying and perilous time, does he owe to long years of suffering which he has since undergone. The writer remembers seeing Mr. Sherman a few years ago when he was so crippled with rheumatism that it was impossible for him to walk, and having heard that a cure had been effected, determined to investigate the matter for himself.

When the reporter called at Mr. Sherman's home he found him in the yard handling an axe and chopping wood like a young man, and he found him also quite willing to relate his trying experience. 'I have suffered with rheumatism for twenty years,' said Mr. Sherman, 'and I have doctored with four different doctors and yet I kept getting worse and worse. I was bent double with the pain in my back and both legs were so drawn up that I was unable to straighten them, and for four months when I wanted to move about I had to do so on my hands and knees. I tried many medicines but got no benefit and I had given up all hope of being able to walk again. One of my sons tried to persuade me to use Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, but I refused to take any more medicine. At last one day my son brought home three boxes of the pills, and after they had been in the house for over two weeks, I at last consented to take them, but not because I thought they would do me any good. Before they were gone, however, I could feel that my back was getting stronger and I could straighten up. It required no further persuasion to get me to take the pills, and from that time on I began to get better, until now with the aid of a light cane, I can walk all over the farm, get in and out of a buggy, and do most of the chores round the house and barn. I feel twenty years younger, and I consider Dr. Williams' Pink Pills the most wonderful medicine for rheumatism in the whole world. I began only to please my son and it was a most agreeable surprise to me when I found my legs limber, and my back gaining new strength. I can cheerfully recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to the suffering rheumatics of the world.

An analysis shows that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood, and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effects of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, nervous prostration, all diseases depending upon vitiated humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females, such as suppressions, irregularities, and all forms of weakness. They build up the blood, and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of whatever nature.



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What are you wearing On your feet this weather?

There is style in footwear as there is in hats. Each year the Granby Rubbers and Overshoes are modelled to fit all the fashionable shapes of boots. They are thin so as to prevent clumsy appearance and feeling and to make them so necessitate the use of the finest quality of rubber. While Granby Rubbers and Overshoes are up to date in Style, Fit and Finish, they retain their old enduring quality.

Granby Rubbers wear like Iron.

THE WORLD'S GREAT PORTS.

Some European Cities Are Going Ahead While New York is Standing Still.

Some German merchants, bankers, and imperial officials have found great encouragement in the fact established by figures that while during the last ten years the commerce of the city of Liverpool has increased forty per cent., the tonnage of vessels arriving at or departing from the German port of Hamburg has increased seventy per cent. in the same period. The geographical position of Liverpool is highly favorable to shipping, and the docks of Liverpool, it is well known, have at large expense made the harbor a most desirable one in the facilities which it gives to vessels of all dimensions. But recently Liverpool has had to contend with the serious industrial and mercantile rivalry of the city of Manchester, and the business of Manchester has been greatly promoted by the Manchester canal. The German Government, in the construction of the new Baltic canal, has discriminated in favor of Hamburg, which has increased its shipping business very largely of late years at the expense of the other North German port of Bremen. At the close of the Franco-Prussian war the tonnage of vessels arriving in and departing from Hamburg was 2,000,000, and of Bremen in the same year 800,000. Since then the commerce of Bremen has increased about 75 per cent, and that of Hamburg 300 per cent.

Notwithstanding these great gains the city of London still retains its remarkable distinction of being the greatest port in the world for sea-going vessels, New York following not very far behind, but showing comparatively little increase. The number of ships, steel, steam or sail, which leave the port of New York in a year is about 2,000, and more than two-thirds of the total number of such vessels are registered under foreign flags. New York has gained of late years in respect of the amount of business done with European ports, but there has been no corresponding increase in the volume of business done with domestic ports, and moreover the city of New York has had to meet very strong competition from Baltimore and New Orleans, a considerable portion of the shipments of Western grain having been diverted to these ports and away from New York. The business of the port of London is very largely of a local character, London being a mart of consumption and interchange of articles arriving from other parts of England.

The four cities of London, New York, Liverpool, and Hamburg stand at the head of the ports of the world, but there are others at which a very large mercantile business is done—some decreasing, but a larger number failing to keep up with the ratio of growth in mercantile business. Antwerp in Belgium stands fifth among the commercial ports of the world and very near it, with a volume of tonnage nearly as high is Marseilles, in France, the chief port of the Mediterranean. Harve, in France, does a considerable business,

chiefly with foreign countries, in the shipping line, and Stettin, in Germany, a large business, chiefly coastwise. The development of the railroad and canal systems of each port has much to do with its growth in commercial business, and it is a fact usually to be observed that a city which is the terminus of a canal retains longer and better its shipping trade than a railroad terminus. At least this is observable in the United States.

Advertisement for Dr. Chase's Ointment Cures, featuring an illustration of a hand holding a box and a testimonial from Mrs. John Gerrie.

My six-year-old daughter, Bella, was afflicted with eczema for 24 months, the principal seat of eruption being behind her ears. I tried almost every remedy I saw advertised, bought innumerable medicines and soaps, and took the child to medical specialists in skin diseases, but without result. Finally, a week ago, I purchased a box of Dr. Chase's Ointment, and the first application showed the curative effect of the Remedy. We have used only one-sixth of the box, but the change is very marked; the eruption has all disappeared, and I can confidently say my child is cured. (Signed) MAXWELL JOHNSTON, 112 Anne St., Toronto.

Sold by all dealers, or on receipt of price, 60c. Address, EDMANSON, BATES & CO., TORONTO.

Advertisement for ENAMEL STARCH, featuring an illustration of a starch box and a testimonial about its use for collars and cuffs.

The Edwardsburg Starch Co. M'f'rs. WORKS: CARDINAL, ONT. OFFICES: MONTREAL, P.Q.