

Chat of the Boudoir.

One Woman's Chat.

The fashionable French walking skirt clears the floor by an inch and a half. It is just short enough to avoid the trouble of lifting, and yet long enough to be in good taste. It is sometimes laid in box plaits all around, stitched down flat to a little below the knee. This sort of skirt requires no petticoat underneath, which is some thing in the interest of economy.

White camelias are a very popular flower in millinery, and gardenias rank next in order, as they resemble the former in their peculiar whiteness and general style.

Rumor comes from Paris that the corset for women under 30, is doomed. Some leading physician has framed a bill forbidding women to wear them until after they have passed three decades, and penalties, very severe, are to be inflicted on women who violate this law, and also upon those who sell them the corsets. However, it is one thing to suggest and another to declare so there may be some obstacles in the way of a bill which interferes with woman's privilege of dressing as she pleases.

White lillies, one at each side of the head in front, are the latest idea for the bridal coiffure, while for general evening wear pretty decorations are made of velvet, gold or silver leaves.

Old fashioned Spanish lace scarfs are used for muffs, made up with chiffon, which wadded, of course, forms the foundation, and the trills as well. The scarf twists around the centre, and ties in a knot and ends fastened with a bunch of flowers or a handsome buckle.

We may look for ends at the back of our hats when the spring styles come in. In fact, they are in evidence already on the fur hats as well as those of lighter material. Little trills of lace or chiffon with lace ends fall in the hair from the side of the back, giving a pretty graceful outline.

Mohair grenadines, very sheer, with white grounds patterned with different delicate colors in a silky design, are conspicuous among the new materials.

The new petticoats show many narrow flounces edged with lace, put on so that they overlap one another fully half their width to give the desired fluff around the feet.

Pearls are very popular for embroidery decorations on satin and lace evening gowns. Gray and black pearls are both combined, with the white most effectively.

Every other woman you see at the theatre has a white tulle cheu at the back of her neck, but the latest use of this little necklet reverses the order and puts the bow in front. This with a pretty coat and furs is very becoming.

Raisins are one of the new garnitures for hats, and are very effective on pale pink mousseline with a cluster of autumn leaves.

A cablegram from the laboratory of the unfailing 'Paris scientist,' says that a bacillus has been discovered there which is the cause of hair turning gray. It is a devourer of the pigment of the hair, and is therefore christened pigmentophagus. The bacteriologist, it is said, is studying means to combat it.

We expect soon to read from Paris that new varieties of pigment-eating, pigment-secreting and pigment-changing bacilli have been discovered, because numerous cases are on record in which white hair had suddenly turned black, and in which other colors have been changed. Hence, if the color of the hair is due to color-eating germs there must be a special kind of these for every color and for every change of color.

Rev. Dr. Robert Bignall of New York does not think well of cooking schools. In a public lecture he said: 'I would not advise any man to marry a woman who had been to cooking school.' Dr. Bignall's theme was the increasing tendency to get away from home life, and he regards the prevalence of cooking schools as an indication that home training is neglected.

Pres. Radcliffe of the Working Women's Prospective Union in New York city says:

Women are more heroic often than men. They can struggle along on a pittance on which no man would try to live decently, and will present a good appearance.

There are many women in this city who live on less than \$5 a week, yet never lose their courage. They have a glass of milk and a couple of rolls in their room for breakfast. They buy a hot luncheon for 15 cents, and have a glass of milk and rolls for supper. They work hard all day, and then sew at night in order to keep themselves neatly dressed. I tell you I want to take off my hat to such women and say God bless you.

A railway snowplow is rather a strange thing for a woman to invent, but a New England woman's device has practical advantages which recommend its use by railways and street car lines.

The chief feature of the apparatus is that it will cut through a drift of crust or packed snow about as easy as an ordinary plow removes a light drift. This is accomplished by first disintegrating the ice and snow with the revolving cutters mounted in the mouth of the plow, when it is an easy matter to dispose of the small sections. The inventor is Katherine Munson of Winthrop, Mass.

A Chef Talks of Economy.

'A thousand a year. How on earth can they afford to pay him that?'

That is what you say at your afterdinner coffee on hearing what my salary is, when you happen to dine at my proprietor's hotel. You shall hear it. It is because I can make a better dinner out of the things you give to the cat than your native cooks can out of five shillings' worth of prime materials. I feed you well and save; you feed badly and waste. Here are a few details:—

In my country we have a proverb which says: 'The dustbins of England would fill the soup tureens of France.'

It is true to the letter, and here are some of the things I saw in an ordinary suburban dustbin only last week, and the use I would put them to:—

First, the outside leaves of four cabbages, some lemon rind, a handful of bread crumbs, two veal bones, the scraped knuckle of a leg of mutton and a lump of very hard dry cheese, almost uncuttable. Some odds and ends of carrots and turnips, a broken sprig of parsley and an extract of meat bottle with a little extract sticking to the inside. The collection, from a household where the housekeeping allowance was strictly limited, went to the parish dust heaps.

In the hotel kitchen I would have shredded the coarsest fiber from the cabbage leaves, simmered them, cut the tender portions into little squares, reduced the liquid by boiling it, stewed the veal and mutton bones in it for three hours, strained the whole through a colander, added the carrot and turnip bits, and, when soft, forced them through a wire sieve back into the soup. Scalded the parsley, minced it and stirred it in, poured a little boiling water into the extract bottle, this making half an ounce of thick meat gravy, and added it; suspended the lemon peel in the soup by a thread, toasted the crusts, cut them into dice, served them on a dish, grated the cheese to powder and done the same with it, then serving the whole thing up.

At any hotel you would have paid a shilling or 18 pence for it, as 'Soupe Berniche au Parmesan,' and said, 'Jove! what an artist the cook is!' Cost—nothing.

If, in your cook's place, I were a woman, I should make the sweet eyes at the baker, and he would supply me—for nothing—with a bag of bread-rasplings, which, through mere waste matter at the bakery, are a lovely golden-brown color. I fry the fish in those, dust a little more over when cooked, and there you are!

As a man, I should give the baker a cigar, and ask him how his amiable wife did. Your baker will always give you these things for nothing if you are a regular customer. Again, if you often have fried fish at your home, you have used many shillings worth of dripping from time to time to fry it in. The fish fried, you tip the dripping into the waste pot. What horror!

I tip mine into a pan of boiling water; the crumbs and bits of fish sink to the bottom, and when cold I lift a perfectly pure cake of clarified dripping from the top of the water, and put it back in a big pot labelled 'for fish.' It is as good the on hundredth time as the first, and the dripping pot at my hotel has cooked 100 dinners.

BAG HABIT AMONG WOMEN.

There is an epidemic of it now, and some of the bags are very pretty.

The bag habit used to be the special characteristic of Boston women and the ugly, but servicable, little device of cloth and leather, that could stretch to hold all sorts of small belongings from a volume of Ibsen to a safety hairpin, was celebrated as the Boston bag from Maine to California. Today the bag habit has seized on

womankind and spread like an epidemic. No shopper or caller or traveller ventures beyond the shelter of her own home unless a bag is hung to her belt or swings from her fingers, and nine-tenths of the feminine population carry two bags at a time and comfortably boast of possessing half a dozen others at home.

To enumerate a few of the variously shaped reticules now considered essential to womanly convenience is to mention at least the side bag, carriage bag, railway bag, wrist bag, handkerchief bag, theatre bag and shopping bag. These are made of everything from alligator skin, with pewter mounts, to the finest gold wire network, in the mesh of which dozens of tiny diamonds of turquoise beads are meshed.

These last are so very delicate and so very costly, that they will only carry the owner's cobweb pocket handkerchief, with their price, it both metal and stones are real, mounts justifyly into the thousands.

The bag in which the majority find the greatest joy and convenience, is the stout spacious safety shopping bag of glazed baby alligator skin, lined with suede, fastened not only with a snap lock, but satchel clips on the side, and adjusted by straps and buckle to one of its outer sides is an ample purse with change and bill pockets.

Within the bag is divided, along its leather walls, into flat compartments, in which in gilt letters, are stamped samples, hairpins, cards, fountain pens, pencil, shopping list, mirror, comb, and smelling salts. The centre of the bag is left free to hold parcels, and as the bottom of the bag pulls out like a bellows, a most amazing number of small things can be put in without overtaxing its capacity. This sort of bag can be bought all fitted, or the purchaser can put her own things into its compartments, though the manufacturer, with great forethought, mounts the bag itself, mirror, comb, pen, pencil and salts bottle in aluminum.

The leather travelling bag is equally complete, though some women have taken kindly to a basket designed in France, and called the Bon Marche, in honor of the great Parisian shops of that name. French peasant women weave these baskets, which are always provided with pretty leather straps and handles and are exceedingly fashionable as work bags at the modish sewing classes and Dorcas circles.

Silver and gold and gun metal side bags have not had their popularity injured in the least by the appearance of the exquisite brocaded satin and beaded silk side bags, mounted with metal tops and chains; and the wrist bag is in as high



The powder puff may help to hide the ravages of time but it avails little to hide the ravages of disease. When the face is disfigured by eruptions, the treatment must go below the surface to the blood, which is corrupt and impure.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures disfiguring eruptions which are caused by impure blood. It cures scrofulous sores, erysipelas, boils, pimples, eczema, salt-rheum and other eruptive diseases which impure blood breeds and feeds.

"I was troubled with eczema from the crown of my head to the soles of my feet," writes Mrs. Ella Quick, of Cass Co., Tuscola Co., Mich. "Could not walk at times nor wear my shoes. Thought there was no help for me—at least the doctor said there was none. I went to see friends at Christmas time and there heard of the good that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery had done for them, and was advised to try it at once. For fear that I might neglect it my friend sent to the village and got a bottle and made me promise that I would take it. I had been getting worse all the time. I took thirteen bottles of the Golden Medical Discovery and ten vials of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, and used 'All-Healing Salve,' which made a complete cure. It was slow, but sure. I was taking the medicine about eight months.

"I would say to all who read this; try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery before wasting time and money."

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favor as ever.

The exceedingly smart wrist bag is made no longer of suede, but of sweet morocco, perfumed Russia leather, or velvet calfein. If you want to pay the top price for a wrist bag, ask for an imported one of sea cow skin, mounted in gun metal and powered with diamond sparks.

Women who mislay their purses and suffer from that gentlest form of aberration called absence of mind are adopting joyfully the English expedient of having their bags chained to their wrists. At the shop where fine leather goods are sold broad lizard skin, morocco, or Russia leather bracelets may be bought to buckle or lock on the left wrist.

From the bracelet depends a short silver or gun metal chain that can be adjusted to any bag, and effectually prevents any tricks of errant memory, or of pickpockets and shoplifters. The leather bracelets are made to hold watches, but the most fashionable ones merely show the owners' initials burnt or carved on the skin, and the same lettering is repeated on the bag that the chain and bracelet guard.

Corticelli Home Needlework.

The first quarterly issue of this splendid magazine for 1902 is now being delivered to subscribers, and is conceded to be one of the best numbers yet published. As its name indicates the book is devoted to instruction in art needlework, embroidery

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crochet, etc., and contains articles on these subjects by several of the best authorities in Canada and the United States. In the current issue an article on 'The Theory and Method of Embroidery,' by Mrs. L. Barton Wilson, is well worthy of consideration by all lovers of art needlework. The magazine also contains numerous half-tone engravings and beautiful colored plates which have been obtained at great expense, and the tout ensemble of the book is one which would grace the table of a queen. The popularity of this work has been remarkable, and today it is a welcome visitor in thousands of homes. It deserves the encouragement accorded to it, and it is safe to say that every lady who sees it will not hesitate to become a subscriber. The magazine (4 issues) is issued at 35¢ per year. Send 10c to the Corticelli Silk Co., St. Johns, P. Q., for sample copy.

A Good Sponge.

A good sponge is an expensive luxury, but the difficulty is to preserve it good, for good sponges go the same way as cheap sponges. They require the nauseating sliminess which turns a thing of utility into a bathroom horror. Add two tablespoonful of sulphuric acid to a pint of water and steep the slimy object in this mixture for a couple of hours. Then knead it thoroughly, still keeping it in the liquid, then wash it well in clean water. You will then have a fresh, elastic and bright sponge, which will be a pleasure instead of pain.

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