

The gloves may be of only heavy

A SNUG BODICE.

has the true fire in her veins, it will be

These blanket dresses are wonderfully cheap, costing complete not more than \$8

CORRECT SHOES AND SKATES.

As to shoes and skates themselves, our

The former will closely follow his hunt-

ing shoes, which lace high up on the leg over a folded "bellows" tongue, a continu-

ation of soft leather at each side of the yelets, and which closes the shoe up like

English grain leather in black or brown s the favored hide; the toes being only noderately rounded, the heels flat, to

make sure the grip of the best skates which are clauped on, and which are said to be the correct thing in the ice world.

They are especially adapted to fancy skat-ing. Another skate, however, that the hiper-athletic girl is likely to adopt is one

whose qualifications are long distance and

These are promoted through the me

far beyond toes and heels with dashing snow-shoe effect, and that sends the skater to cutting the wind with the swift-

ness of a bird.

But though they are allowed the wearer of petticoats is advised against the new

long skate; there is an arrangement o straps about the instep and ankle that is said at times to stop circulation and pro-

IN BLUE AND BLACK. And now a peep at the skating girl, who is all girl, and hasn't the least wish in the world to ape her big brother.

When next the horns of sport sound th invited to the park, you will know her by her sweet blonde head and her dress of hussar blue cloth trimmed with Alaska

The skirt is short and full, and i bordered with a band of sable, as is, also

the bottom of the natty round Prussian

basque, the throat and wrists.

The basque is double-breasted, and over the front cords are draped in true hussar

fashion. When the wind blows the skir

uside it will be seen that the little lady

A BROWN-EVED MAID

um of a slender runner that projects

skater will borrow further from

or \$10

brother Jack.

riding boot.

duce cold feet

uable

algrette.

ON THE ICE.

picturesque effect, the ice dress may be and lifted slightly over one knee, and that of blanket toboggan cioth, say white, with is almost short enough all round to per-

If this is considered too gay, an India hive ground and black border may be chosen instead. Grant then the dainty wearer has just turned her lêth or 17th year—only the younger fry seem to take seriously to skating in New York; and picture the costume in two pieces, a shortfull skirt and a blouse, long-tailed blouse that laps well over to one side, and is bound about the waist with a gay slik or wool scarf.

The striped border forms the sailor collar and wide ouffs that turn back over the bishop sleaves, and a single blanket torn in half and sewed together with the border down may make the skirt.

Again, when something more modish is funcied, the skirt may be gored, and the

bem.
The cap, or toboggun toque of thick read over the regulations for coll

mit view of the black lower jupe; the least movement spreads it out like a bril

Will Test Your Disposition.

Kate Field's Washington.

If you want an accurate measure of the sweetness of your disposition just take

g border of black and red stripes.

If this is considered too gay, an India-blue ground and black border may be

down may make the skirt.

Again, when something more modish is fancied, the skirt may be gored, and the

border applied afterwards, and to keep it from frisking around too madly, leaden weights covered with bits of the same ma-

terial will be sewed all glong the inside

ABSENCE.

In the fair stranger's eyes of gray Thine eye, my love, I see. I shiver, for the passing day Had borne me far from thee.

This is the curse of life, that not A nobler, calmer train Of wiser thoughts and feelings blot Our passions from our brain. But each day brings its petty dust, Our soon-choked souls to fill, Our soon-chosed souls to im, and we forget because we must, And not because we will.

—Matthew Arnold,

## Skating Costumes.

What the Fashionable Woman Wears When Skimming the Ice.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.-The New York skating gown is not a thing to be labeled as such. With us the frozen period is too brief, too given up to the vast unfashionable majority, to make it seem to Mme. Mode as worthy of a distinguishing

One must have a dance frock, a tallo



gown and a visiting toilet; but the rig that capers over the ice may be any-thing that suggests itself to the wearer

as warm enough, not too long as to skirt, or blow-away as to coat tails. For the rest, the average fair skater bears in mind only a general scheme of compactness for underwear and head covering, and if these should happen to take the shape of a male relative's winter cap and knickerbockers, she feels herself all the more to be cracked up as a person of superior intelligence.

But heaven bless the foolish little maid who will have a frock for every occasion. Without her, commerce would wilt, and fashion writers die of starvation, and since she is always an authority on clothes, let us take a peep at her skating

BLANKET DRESSES. she has Canadian leanings, with an and stiffened. Over this falls a kitted toward case and comfort, as well as second one of scarlet, that is unshaped If she has Canadian leanings, with an

the income tax and take your tempera ture again. If no appreciable rise can be detected you are fit for that other world in which the government is so simple and the public works so substantial that there is no taxing or collecting of taxes.

CAPS FOR MODEST HEADS

Caps that adorn the heads of women on the shady side of 30 are lovely in design this winter. Their shapes have altered somewhat, perhaps in concession to the fashionable English bonnet that clings far back on the coiffeur and droops over the knot. The new caps adopt that droop. They are built on a crescent of crinoline carried back to a poir, and fall almost to the nape of the neck, obtaining a less sorightly but more graceful effect. a less sprightly but more graceful effection formerly.

than formerly.

Point d'esprit is the favorite material out of which to fashion them. It bears "doing up" better than other laces, and has more freshness. A new web lace brought over from France is adaptable for the very dressy ones. It represents as nearly as art can a dainty bit of cobweb caught on the head, whose divisions are cutlined with narrow ribbon. It is most effective. on top of the head or well down over the skin, but if they are of fleece-lined kid, then are added cuffs tops of fur.

But, of course, there must be some sort of a snug easy bedice to go under the outside bianket jacket; and now come we to that part of her tollet, the most fetching of all the new skating girl's get up. She wears a sweater! It is not one of those feminized things with laced front and girlish shapings, but a real mannish aweater with a high rolling collar. In form it is the exact prototype of her big most effective. These caps are the easiest of headrens to fashion at home. Some of the ultra stylish affairs for morning wear are made of handkerchiefs. Fine linen with a bit

form it is the exact prototype of her big athletic brother's, and if the slim sister has the true are in account at the sides be embroidered over the breast with the same hierogryphics or a close imitation—the same crossed flags and rings, that to be a "man" of any consequence, Jack must now wear over his strong chest.

dealing in futures, and the sower's greatgrandchildren must reap the reward.

A trial that may prove of quicker benefit
is watering the ground from rinsings
where parings of the trialle had soaked.
This method has already had a small
harvest, and it is the hope of epicures
that the genius of tillers of the soil will
find some way to originate and perpetuate
the culture of this succulent bit of vegetable growth.

It has been reported to the fish com-

etable growth.

It has been reported to the fish commissioners that lobsters will soon be an appetizing dream of the past, and if truffles also are to be numbered among the by-gone luxuries of the palate, what will the world of fashionable dinner-givers do then? HENRY STIRLING.

TOBOGGANING.

Mrs. Levy P. Morton and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Own Private Stides -Enthusiastic Tobogganers

About New York, in New Jersey, or long island, and through the northern ountry generally, the tologganing season is just commencing.

Although snow is rather an important factor in this game, it is not an absolute casential. With pichty of water and freezing weather, the slide is ready at any

SKILL IN STEERING.

of handkerchiefs. Fine linen with a bit of narrow lace rolled on by hand, daintily embroidered ones with scalloped edges, even sheer muslin with tiny dots (or) fleur-de-lys in color, are used.

I saw some that were most artistic in this variety displayed in a Broadway linen store. The foundation was the useful half-moon of stiff muslin, a rucaing of d'esprit lace isid on to soften the face line. The handkerchief was put on in a jabot, the extreme point falling over the steering almost unnecessary, and reduces



FOR ELDERLY DAMES,

high black boots are topped with the same fur that trims her frock. She carries a big brown muff and wears a flerce brown of baby ribbon in palest colors ornament beast about her throat; and cocked dain-tily to one side her flat, saucer-like tur-ban of blue cloth and fur, lifts stiffly up over one eyebrow a black spun-glass Others have four full plaitings of point desprit about a tam o'shanter of fine muslin, with a broad, flat bow in front. A crisp little one of rose plaited lace has a stiff pom-pon in front with a bow of he-

liotrope velvet, one loop standing erect, the other falling to the back. A very few have the ubiquitous buckle. A small rhinestone crescent fastens a Or again, look for a dainty, brown-eyed maid in scarlet and black, and with a big Persian lamb cap drawn well down to the tips of her ears. At one side of this a red bird is perched, or two scarlet quilis crossed, and her must and short, round, flat bow of pink velvet, two tiny gold cir-cies form the base for a couple of narrow ribbon rosettes. However, when an or-nament is used on a cap, it is generally double-breasted jacket are also Persian. The skirt of scarlet and black broad-cioth is exceedingly novel. First, there is a skirt of the black moderately gored enceded that the occasion of its wearing

should be of much formality. H. H. FOR SOCIETY WOMEN.

Among women who are devoting time and study to sociology a new need has arisen. The wonder is that no one thought of it before. Learning to apply first ald to the injured is of much practi cal advantage to young women who work in college settlements, or tenement house chapters of King's Daughters, to care for the sick and show the benefit of hy-

glenic living.
As many of these students are chose from the cultured and smart sets in va rious cities, this society is made up from the ranks of the haut ton. A woman surgeon visits each clique of women who meet in some drawing-room twice a week, giving them lessons in how to assume charge of an injured person. Bandaging setting bones, applying plaster, and stop-page of blood constitute the carriculum. The advantage of such knowledge is too evident to be detailed. Its applica on should not be confined to wo n who work in the crowded districts, where an injured person is liable to die for want of proper treatment before an ambulance arrives. Wherever life is, there danger exists, and the present woman who is given over to athletics should add this surgical knowledge to the list of he other acquirements. It is an excellent society to form in any

town, whether taken up for reason of its practicability or novelty, A few churches are forming classe among their members, and some of the outlis, who are society belles, say it is

pupils, who are society beines, say it is the most interesting study they have yet taken up. If society keeps on in its healthful programme of this season, with its cooking, surgical and sociologic classes, the latter-day girl will bid fair to out-strip the women of all ages. CLAIRE CLANTON.

ABOUT TRUFFLES.

"Ten thousand dollars' worth at a time and three orders a year," was the reply of one New York firm when asked if America liked truffles. This output from one establishment emphasized the fact that New Yorkers like the stimulating French mushroom.

But the land of sunshine has not

monopoly on the truffle trade; England and Germany are taking quite a bit of interest in the yield; still the opinion of the chef agrees with that of the mil

of the chef agrees with that of the mil-liner, France is the country for perfect truffles, as well as bonnets. The French variety is very dark, with-out attaining the blackness of the Ger-man species. It is found in loose, light soil, about a foot from the surface, pre-ferring the ground where chestnut trees grow. Its whereabouts is discovered by view who seem out the nalutable accernigs, who scent out the palatable acorn and root it up, trained, however. His good pointers, not to despoil their prize. In Wiltshire and Kent, where the English kind has been discovered, dogs, instead of pigs, are used, and the folks of Kent divide their time between hoppicking and tradfle-flading as a means of livelihood. Great Britain, seeing the chormous profit to be made in this vegetable living. pigs, who seent out the palatable acortable lixury, has been endeavoring to grow it, rightfully fearing that it will noon cease; but so far all efforts have failed. The last sitempt of the French to force the production was in Police. There they sowed a profitable bit of soil with acorus, and they claim that when the cakes are large enough to shade the grounds, truffles will be found in abundance at their roots. This is certainly Athletic Club are devoted to toboggan club near enough to lift and carry of grain weighing 20 po and beard turned gray, out in Grange, the members of the large and his hands and dance at their roots. This is certainly

knot of hair at the neck, and bunches the risk of an upset or other accident to It is notable, however, that the young women usually prefer to intrust then selves to the helmsman who has the best

The steersman sits or reclines on one de, the weight of the upper part of his body resting on one arm placed in ad-

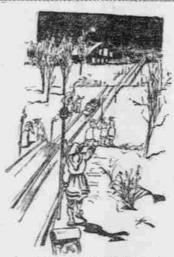
he can guide his "vehicle" in any de-sired direction.

There are accidents, of course; where would be the fun without the spice of possible danger? Occasionally a tobog-gan rushing down a hill at a tremendous rate reaches the circular sweep at the foot and refuses to be controlled, with a



mighty bound she goes over a snot bank or fence eight or ten feet high, and lands her astonished living freight possibly in an adjoining state or county. It is exciting, of course—a rush, a drop, a struggle to hold on, then a mad whiz along the slide until the end is reached This is tobogganing, and the fun is fast

PASHIONABLES ON RUNNERS. Among those members of the Tuxedo



THAT LONG CLIMB UP.

are, in fact, enthusiasts, are Mis-Fin Potter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Brown Potter; Mrs. Fernands Yanaga, the Lords, some members of the orillard family, notably Mrs. T. Suffern failer, and the family of Mr. Lawrence

The particularly interesting feature of the particularly interesting feature of tologganing is the clubhouse. It is quite as important as the slide. It is fitted up cosily and prettily; it is warm and bright, and often gay with flowers and other decorations; and here a jolly little supported. is served for the merry coasters, with a dance to follow. A fancy dress party was given by the Lansdowne Toboggan Club, of Montreal, at which the governorgeneral of Canada and his wife were present. Something of the same sort is dation by a toboggan club near

ing, and make good and constant use THE WOES OF WOMAN material in the distribes that are pub of their slide, which is complete, and as THE WOES OF WOMAN material in the distribes that are pub of their slide, which is complete, and as of their shide, which is complete, and as nearly perfect as a slide can be; perhaps the best of any in the neighborhood of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Sumner Teall are among the members of this club who own sleda and toboggan costumes, which, by the way, are always made of gay colors, in which scarlet predominates, with coquettish little caps for the ladies, moccosins and warm gloves. Others of the Orange Club are the Colegates, Hydes, Pairchilds, Potters, and gates, Hydes, Fairchilds, Potters, and

The private toboggan slides are, one at the Rockefeller place, Tarrytown; an-other at Mr. Levi P. Morton's, at Ei-

gans have silver-plated trimmings, and are supplied with cushions made of cor-duroy. DIANA CROSSWAYS.

A FLORAL REVIVAL. The Significance of Buds and Blossoms Diligently Studied.

Hunt up your old floral handbooks, for the revival of the use of floral language is among the latest fads of the gay world. When the mothers of those of us who are not too young were buds and belies, all the beaux were popularly thought to believe that—
"A maid is like a floweret sweet,"

And all the gilded youth of both sexes studied the language of flowers with more assiduity than some other topics that might have been more useful, if less orna-

of "modesty." The althaca says "I am of "modesty." The althaca says "I am consumed with passion," and cape jasmine's speech is "transport and ecstasy." Corchorus means "impatience of absence"; dahlias, "foreverthine"; wood sorrel stands for "joy"; and spindle-tree, "you are engraven upon my heart." Ranunculus says "you are radiant with chairms"; peach blossom, "this heart is thine"; the white illy means "purity"; and myrtle, like the blue and costly violet, means "love" of an equally loyal (but less expen-sive) variety. "I love you-devotion" is the message of the beliotrope (Peruvian), and the tiny forget-me-not expresses

Of course there will be a quarrel, and this opens up the way for a fascinating errespondence. With a spray of the pretcorrespondence. With a spray of the pretty flowering dogwood he will ask contriteiy, "An I indifferent to you" and then
tuck in a bit of hazel to ask for a "reconciliation." Of course she will reply with
jongulis, which mean "I desire a return
of your affection," whereupon he should
put in an appearance with a sprig of lungwort for a boutonniere, since that says
"thou art my life."

All the deer "St friends of the betweend

All the dear 3% friends of the betrothed couple have in their turn a practically un-limited field in which to cull their sentinental massages for them. The rejected nitor, for example, may take his revenge by dashing the lady's happiness with a by daining the lady's happiness with a pang when she shall receive his bouquet of the glowing American marigolds with their hidden mesmage of "cruelty." Or, perhaps, he will be more merciful, and send instead some dog roses to speak of the "commingling of pleasure and pain" that is his. Or purple fuchsias will say "the abolition of my love thus planues it.

"the ambition of my love thus plagues it-self," while marigold and cypress together will wall of "despair."

Cheerfuller friends will dispatch garlands of roses, if they wish to convey their belief that the sweet maid has won a lover as a "reward of virtue;" corn, to wish her "riches;" Austrian roses to say "thou as a "reward of virtue;" corn, to wish her as she shivers away, and say, "Now, I her as she shivers away, and say, "Now, I dearie, isn't this bracing weather?" And at all that is lovely; China roses for "grace; Jacqueminots, because they exhale "tender love;" tea roses for "alwaya lovely;" white mulberry, meaning "wisdom;" horse chestnut if their wish is for "luxuvy," yellow famine because they gets in a warm room, she will have a think Maid Margaret is all "grace and ele-gance." Pansies are always for heart's beloved will pat her on the back, 'thoughts;" double red pinks for "pure. hold her hand and call her "poor little ardent love;" pear blossoms stand for "affection;" orchids for "beauty;" cel-andine, "future joy;" rose acadia, "friend-

In addition to the durable birthday gifts that are made to new-born heirs and heir-esses, it is a graceful and growing custom to send flowers to the mater as soon as the cards announcing the arrival of baby are received. Trailing arbutus for "welome," is a charming posy under the circumstances. American startwort, the language of which is "welcome to a stranger," is also a quaint conceit. The e, which stands for "early youth," s pretty for a floral gift under the cir-umstances, and with it moss, which peaks of "maternal love," may poetically

Flower figures in cotillions may be made the meckum for merry flirtations by a measure of preparation on the part of the guests who are to carry on the feative rolle with fair flowers.

To make the flower messages really in eresting a great variety of cut flowers nust be provided. A clever leader of the terman could carry out this idea of firting with flowers even if the guests knew nothing of it beforehand, by providing cards setting forth the messages of the carious flowers as interpreted by the leadng authorities on the subject.

There ought to be tulips in abundance

ince they mean "a declaration of love; hen there should be maiden-hair fern m;" yarrow, which is a or the heartache;" and sweet William meaning "finesse." DINAH STURGIS.

## I REMEMBER, I REMEMBER. I remember, I remember,

The house where I was born, The little window where the sun Came peeping in at morn; He never came a wink too soon, Nor brought too long a day, But now I often wish the night Had borne my breath away:

I remember, I remember, Where I was used to swing. And though the air must ruch as fresh To swallows on the wing;
My spirit flew in feathers then,
That is so heavy now.
And summer pools could hardly cool

The fever on my brow! I remember, I remember The fir trees dark and high; I used to think their slender t Were close against the sky;

It was a childish ignorance, But now 'tis little Joy To knew I'm farther off from beaven To know I'm fartees
Than when I was a boy.
-THOMAS HOOD.

A Lifetime in Twelve Years.

Scientific American. A remarkable case of rapid growth hal cently been investigated by the French Academie des Sciences. A boy at the age of 5 began to grow a beerd and to change his voice. He seemed to be a man of 20. At 5 pears old he was 5 feet 6 and strong ugh to lift and carry on his back bags of grain weighing 200 pounds. At 8 his hair and beard turned gray, at 10 his teeth fell out and his hands and legs became pul-

CLEVER BAB DISCOURSES EMPHAT-ICALLY ABOUT THEM.

Rheumatism as an Evil-Ethics of Apple Dumplings-Low Coranges Defended-Scenes in Shops.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31 - (Special correspondnce.)—The only thing that ever seemed to me human in the Cariyle family was that Jane Weish herself was excess-As to the practical side of tobogganing, the best toboggans are made of oak
ing, the best toboggans are made of oak
ing the best toboggans
ing the There is nothing that quite expresses all its possibilities. It appears like a thief in the night, and gives you severe pains when you least expect it, and then takes entire possession of you until you scream with agony and wonder why the district messenger company raised its rates, making it impossible for poor people to hire a boy to do the desired swearing for them. At such times, when the pains are dancing all around you like little devils doing a cancan, you are certain to have somebody near you who tells you it is for your own good.

I can never be brought to believe this.

I can never be brought to believe this. I regard the rheumatism as one of Satan's weapons, intended to make humanity de-sire to go where there will be no difficulty in getting flannels heated. It does nobody any good, for it incites in them a desire to say short, quick, wicked words. It is calculated to make even an angel cranky. assiduity than some other topics that might have been more useful, if less ornamental.

And now circling society, that according to the optimists is really moving in an ascending spiral, has got round to the poet's way of thinking once more. Florists who cater to the Brahmin caste, and the beat gordeness of large growing the property of the poet's way of thinking once more. Florists who cater to the Brahmin caste, and pleasure to the world at large. Who have the beat gradeness of large growing that the world at large. the head gardeners of large private con-servatories, say the demand for all man-ner of floral oddities has been slowly de-veloping for some time, and now the hue and cry for special flowers because of their sentimental meaning approaches a craze.

The sentimental meaning approaches a craze. It's a fragrant notion, this of sending your daily floral tribute to your flanced in blossoms that express in varying language the ebb and flow of your affection. There are the tender blue violets that spell "love," and the white ones that breather "The eithers are the tender blue violets that spell "love," and the white ones that breather "The eithers are are the tender blue violets that spell "love," and the white ones that breather "The eithers are are the tender blue violets that spell "love," and tell you that your material isn't even cut, but that it will be soon. She thinks her frankness excuses everything, while you wish you lived in a country where a string of pearls and a fig leaf was all that was necessary for even the while you wish you lived in a country where a string of pearls and a fig leaf was all that was necessary for even the most elaborate affairs. Frankness is not old love letters, and never bring it out.

sltogether a desirable thing, and I wish that the people who have more of it than they need would put it away as one does However, I am not going to trouble about unnecessary people or undesirable frankness, but I am going to try and remember that the Christmas egg-nogg was very good and realize what a pity it is that people only have it once a year. It is funny how people go on about the world being full of folly and sin, when it really is a good world. If there is rheumatism and broken hearts, there is also no end of good things-good things to eat, and good babies to kiss, and good friends to care for. Charles Lamb said that nobody could eat an apple dumpling unless she was in a state of primeval in-nocence like Eve. I ate two last night, and I feel so proud of myself I am bound to tell it. You see it is very comfortable to know that one is innocent, for innocence and truth go together, and between the throes of the rheumatism (I like that word throes, it sounds so dra-matic) I can hurl the truth like a rubber bail at anybody I think ought to hear it. The first sad truth is the appearance of the average girl in cold weather. If her gloves or her shoes are a little bit too close-fitting, then her nose gets red, and if she is donkey enough to use powder while the thermometer is near zero, she presents the appearance of a walking ghost, for the combination of cold and powder results in a blue skin. But then it is pretty to see her (?) when she is on the avenue with the one dearest to her the avenue with the one dearest to her heart. She looks like a toy terrier out for exercise as she prances along, for, like most New Yorkers, her walk is abominable, being really a something hetween a prance and a trot. The chances are that her beloved will look down on 'tuxury:" yellow jasmine because they gets in a warm room, she will have a woman," and feel dreadfuly sorry for her. Men have an idea that women like exer-cise. They don't. Women like warm weather, good food, fresh bonbons, good wines, interesting books and luziness. I don't mean, of course, that all women are lazy, but if it were possible, I think they all would be. Women are delightfully material, and I don't know but what We can talk it is the best thing to be. as much as we want about the spiritual. We can realize all our fondest dreams of idyllic life and spiritual companionship on paper, but before we do this, we have to be a bit material and get the paper, quill and ink. Poets and writers give books about the delights of spiritual. Painters attempt to put it in color on canvas, and what the result? The spiritual verses, the spiritual essays, lacking atmosphere and action, are not read. The spiritual pictures are apt to be of rather skinny women, wearing but little and so displaying their ones to an unappreciative world, while they have immensely large eyes and look as if they were starved. Nobody buys the pictures, and the artist thinks they are ot appreciated. To me, that most beautiful picture. Titan's "Sleeping Venus," shows that it had a heart in it. There was a strong brain attached to the phys-

ical beauty of Pauline Bearnhardt, and certainly there were loving, pure-souled women among those who faced death by the guillotine, dying for their king and their religion. Did Carlyle yearn only for spiritual refreshment when he was writing the "Life of Frederick the Great"? Certainly not; he wanted the best suppe that Janie Weish and her devoted hand-maiden could get up for him. Was Charles Lamb, in his loving, beautiful and sad life, thinking of astral bodies when he wrote the essay on "Roast Pig"? Did De Musset, Cautier, Heine, Du mas, Rossetti, or Swinburne write their warm, glowing, passionate lines under the influence of the spiritual, as shown by two peacock's feathers and a glass of hot water? Nonsense. It is the most re-markable thing, considering its age, that the world is so foodish. There is nothing so exquisitely beautiful as material of

the finest. It may be the skin of a wo-

man; it may be the blush on the side of a peach; it may be the brocade that makes a petilical, or it may be a dainty

shed against low bodices. Now, per-onally, I believe in low bodices, with a proviso. The proviso is that the neck is white and well-shaped, and the bodies so cut that the neck and shoulders show to the best advantage. Of course, there are women who have little real sense of the beautiful, but it is more than probable that in time they will learn what a mistake they have made.

A woman who wears her clothes in

sections is vulgar, when the absolutely nude may be exquisitely modest. I see some cranks have been objecting to "Trilby" and calling it immoral because the heroine posed for "the altogether." I suppose there are some people who are complex virtue, and to be immodest to be ugly, but, having given my opinion about it, I will leave it to the cranks to light it out among themselves.

It is funny how womankind is dominated by the lady behind the counter. I witnessed what might be called an episode the other day. A lady, quietly dressed-one who believes that quiet dressing is proper when she is shopping-was anxious to get some underwear suitable for a servant, but of course she did not explain her affairs to the young woman who condescended to wait on her. She said: "I want to see some plain, un-trimmed nightdresses." There was put before her a huge pile, trimmed with cheap and glaring embroidery. She ven-tured the remark: "Perhaps you didn't write understand me: I asked for plain

With a toss of her head that made her Psyche knot tremble, this answer was hurled at her: "Well, I am sure these are cheap enough, and much more fashtonable."

The would-be buyer meekly said: "I didn't ask for cheap things, nor fashionable things, I asked for plain things." The words that came were very posi-tive: "I should think I'd been long enough in the business to know what ladies

At last, because she was really too tired to go to any other place, the unfortunate woman asked again for plain ones, and this time got them. She selected what she wanted paid for them, and gave her name and address, that they might be sent home. Then the lady behind the counter remarked: "Goodness gracious, I shouldn't think you were that man's wife when you buy such truck!" when you buy such truck!"

That was the last straw, and the shop-per departed, taking a most solemu oath that she would never put her foot in that shop again.

Now, a similar experience happened to me; I wanted a yard of pink ribbon: I stated the width and the shade; I was told that bine was most fash-ionable; I said I wanted pink satin. I was then informed that moire made up into bows better than satin. I said I didn't want to make bows, and "o, much against her wishes, the young woman was at last forced to give what I wanted. But as I left, I had the pleasure of hearing this farewell remark; "She don't know the difference between what is and what ain't, and I don't care

about her old ribbon."

Well, it all comes about in a life-time. I may mention, by the bye, that the young woman who was so unwilling to sell me pink ribbon had been interrupted by me when she was reading a dream-book. You know we all have our little peculiarities.

BAB'S SUPERSTITIONS. I don't like to dream of black beetles because if I do, somebody I am fond of is sure to be taken sick. A friend of mine believes the if she

dreams of gold that trouble w... come, but bank notes will bring good luck. I den't suppose you are supersitious, still, if I were you, I wouldn't sing before breakfast, because if you do you will cry

before ten.

If I were you, when the palm of my left hand itched I would rub it on wood, because then, for certain, you will get the money that is meant for you.

If I were you and my nose itched, I would have an extra place put at the table, for you are some to the

for you are going to kiss a stranger. if I were you and saw a pin, I would pick it up, for then for sure luck will come that day. If I were you I wouldn't walk under a ladder, for the devil is walting on the

other side to take you If I were you and dreamed of white

neral.

If I were you, and a mangy-looking dog followed me. I would encourage him, because he would bring a handsome blonde husband.

If I were you and saw a hairpin on the floor, I would grab it at once, for then the letter than you were looking for would arrive.

etter than you were looking for I arrive. were you I would have a little pa-with the small superstitions of if I were you I would have a name patience with the small superstitions of women in general, and one in particular; she who carries a rabbit's foot in one pocket to bring good luck and a horse-chestnut in the other to cure the rheumatism. Who is she? She is yours for BAB.

## French Dramatic Authors

New York Tribune It is said that the receipts from the per-formances of "Madame Sans-Gene," in and outside of Paris, have amounted already to more than \$500,000, and brought a fortune to the author. The profession of dramatic author, however, has not always been so remunerative in France. Before the formittion of the Society of Dramatists, St. Romain, the director of the Porte-Saint-Martin, bought the rights for the presentation of a piece for \$50 and gave the author in addition \$1.80 each time the piece was presented. In 1885 the income of the author from pieces presented at L'Ambigu was fixed

at 30 30 a night for a piece of three acts for the first 31 times; after that point was passed the author received only 36. "Le Sourd," of Desforges, which made the fortune of the Palais Boyal, brought the author \$120, and "Madame Angot," under the First Empire, which added \$100,000 to the treasury of La Gaite, enriched the writer by \$120.

A Flibbertigibbet

All the Year Round.

A "flibber-gibbet" is a living knave or sycophant; no, in "Latimer's Sermons," folio 29, we get: "And when these flatterers and flibber-gibbets another day shall come and claw you by the back, your grace may answer them thus," etc. A recondary meaning of these words seems to be a vexallous, tormenting spirit.

Bishop Harsact, in his account of the Spanish invasion, tells of 40 fends cast out by the Jesuits, among them Flibber-gibbet-doubless another form of the original word. So the fool in "King Lear." This is the foul fiend Flibber-gibbet; be a peach: it may be the brocade that makes a petitioni, or if may be a dainty supper table arranged to please the eye and delight the tisse. We are having a mildews the white wheat, and hurts the and delight the taste. We are having a mildews the white when little taste of one woman's idea of the poor creatures of earth."

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