



WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

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-shedded souls to fill,
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 a thing to be made as worthy of a distinguishing uniform.

One must have a dance frock, a tailor

honeycomb wool, is either worn jauntily on top of the head or well down over the ears.

The gloves may be of only heavy dog-skin, but they are of fleece-lined kid, then are added cuffs tops of fur.

A SNUG BODICE.

But, of course, there must be some sort of a snug easy bodice to go under the outside blanket jacket; and now come we to that part of her toilet, the most fetching of all the new skating girl's get up. She wears a sweater. It is not one of those feminized blouses with laced front and girlish shapings, but a real mannish sweater with a high rolling collar.

In form it is the exact prototype of her big athletic brother's, and if the slim sister has the true fire in her veins, it will be besides be embroidered over the breast with the same hieroglyphics—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. These blanket dresses are wonderfully cheap, costing complete not more than \$3 or \$5.

CORRECT SHOES AND SKATES.

As to shoes and skates themselves, our skater will borrow further from brother Jack.

The former will closely follow his hunting shoe, which lace high up on the leg over a folded "bellows" tongue, a continuation of soft leather at each side of the eyelets, and which closes the shoe up like a riding boot.

English grain leather in black or brown is the favored hide; the toes being only moderately rounded, the heels flat, to make sure the grip of the best skates which are clamped on, and which are said to be the correct thing in the ice world. They are especially adapted to fancy skating. Another skate, however, that the hyper-athletic girl is likely to adopt is one whose qualifications are long distance and speed.

These are promoted through the medium of a slender runner that projects far beyond toes and heels with dazzling snow-shoe effect, and that sends the skater to cutting the wind with the swiftness of a bird.

But though they are allowed the wearer of petticoats is advised against the new long skate, there is an arrangement of straps about the instep and ankle that is said at times to stop circulation and produce cold feet.

IN BLUE AND BLACK.

And now a peer 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 the invited to the park, you will know her by her sweet blonde head and her dress of hussar blue cloth trimmed with Alaska sable.

The skirt is short and full, and is bordered with a band of sable, as is, also, the bottom of the miter 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 skirt aside it will be seen that the little lady's high black boots are topped with the same fur that trims her frock. She carries a big brown muff and wears a fleece brown breast about her throat, and cooked daintily to one side her hat, saunter-like turban of blue cloth and fur, lifts stately up over one eyebrow a black sun-glass algrete.

A BROWN-EYED MAID.

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 quills crossed, and her miter and short round, double-breasted jacket are also Persian.

The skirt of scarlet and black broadcloth is exceedingly novel. First, there is a skirt of the black materially sored on the material. Over this falls a fitted second one of scarlet, that is unshaped

gown and a visiting toilet; but the rig that capers over the ice may be anything 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, common sense 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 costume.

BLANKET DRESSES.

If she has Canadian leanings, with an eye toward ease and comfort, as well as

the income tax and take your temperature 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 50 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 forehead and droops over the knot. The new cap adorns that droop.

They are built on a crescent of crinoline curled back to "veil" the face, and almost to the nape of the neck, obtaining a less sprightly but more graceful effect 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 outlined with narrow ribbon. It is most effective.

These caps are the easiest of headgear to fashion at home. Some of the ultra stylish affairs for morning wear are made of handkerchiefs. Fine linen with a bit of narrow lace rolled up by hand, daintily embroidered ones with scalloped edges, even sheer muslin with tiny dots (or fleur-de-lis in color, are used.

I've 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 ruching of d'esprit lace laid on to soften the face line. The handkerchief was put on the jabot, the extreme point falling over the

dealing in futures, and the sower's great-grandchildren must reap the reward.

A trial that may prove of quicker benefit than watering the ground from planters whose parings of the truffle have 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 commission that toasters will soon be as 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 Slides—Enthusiastic Tobogganers.

About New York, in New Jersey, on Long Island, and through the northern country generally, the tobogganing season is just commencing.

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

SKILL IN STEERING.

Tuxedo is the place where the sport is carried to a high state of perfection.

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