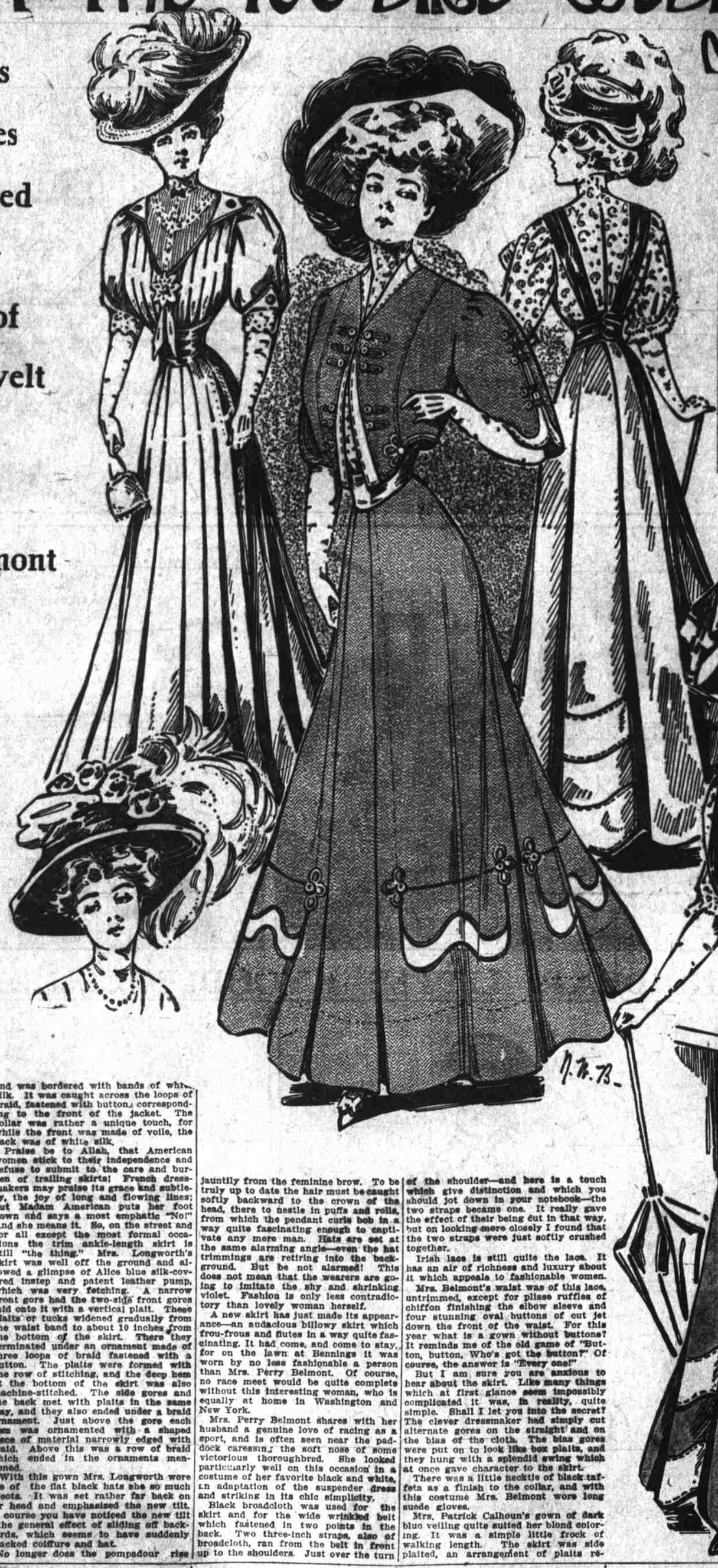
# WHAT THE "400" ARE WEARING, by MRS. CHOLLY KNICKERBOCKER

## The Modes for the Races as Emphasized in the New Costumes of Alice Roosevelt Longworth and Mrs. Perry Belmont



A—Alice Blue Gown of the Coat and Skirt Design, Worn by Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth at the Races.

B—The Front and Back of Mrs. Perry Belmont's Black Broadcloth Gown, Worn with a Waist of Irish Lace.

C—The Very Smart Side Plaited Skirt and Waist Effect Charming Mushroom Shaped Hat Adorned with Taffeta Silk of Green and Rose Pink, Curled Aigrette and Pink Roses, Worn by Miss Elizabeth Winthrop Stevens.

SMART people are fast getting out of doors. Society is putting on its new spring frocks. The blase world of fashion is sniffing fresh air, rather than the odor of hothouse violets.

The winter has been long and trying. Each day has been so, so crowded with one's social engagements. One is so bored, so fatigued in New York with the wearisome routine of it all. Oh, how good and glad it is to be really outdoors once more.

Brisk morning walks down Fifth avenue—and more and more the custom grows for one finds that this constitutional brings a becoming flush to one's cheeks and a brightness to one's eyes which even Marie's clever fingers cannot accomplish so satisfactorily—rides in the park, days spent at one's favorite country club, a round or two at golf—one begins to feel the real joy of living. And the coaching season is near at hand. And before long we shall be whizzing off in our motor cars for a run down to the races.

But although it will be yet a little while before the fascinating sport of horse-racing comes to New York, fashionable New York can in the meantime go to it. Some of us have not thought the pilgrimage to see the racing at Bennings too long a one. The other day I noticed a great many familiar faces on the lawn there—so many, indeed, of our own "four hundred" that it was hard to believe that one was in the capital and not in the metropolis.

Speaking of races, of course, reminds us of frocks, for after all at the race meet, as at the horse show, the gown is pretty much the thing! We speak of the "jockey's silk," but the silk of one's gown is the matter of real importance.

There were plenty of smart and suitable gowns at Bennings, principally of cloth, for the season is a tardy one and many dainty confections destined for the race meet are still hidden in their tissue paper wrappings.

All shades of tan were much in evidence and the new tapestry blue—a luscious soft shade the exact color of the blue found in the old Gobelin tapestries; brown was there, too, and I caught an approaching glimpse of a gown of Alice blue. It was trim and youthful looking and who should be wearing it but Princess Alice herself!

It is a responsibility, as well as an honor, to be made a godmother to a color, and this responsibility Mrs. Nicholas Longworth quite appreciates. So she remains true to her chosen color. Not only does she appear wearing whole costumes of it, but we see a touch of it on her hat as she starts a morning's shopping or on the collar and lapels of her motoring coat as she flashes by in her automobile.

This particular blue gown was of the coat and skirt variety, and was of voile, which is this year used quite as much as ever.

The coat was cut on an Eton model. It had a fascinating little dip in front and was sloped up slightly at the sides, and was fairly short in the back, permitting a glimpse of the belt. The tubular braid with which it was trimmed was exactly the same shade as the voile, so the only relief was in the touches of white on belt, collar and sleeve, and in the white carved pearl buttons. The braid formed loops down the front of the jacket, each loop being caught with a button. An ornament made of braid was in each lower corner of the front of the coat, from which a double row of braid ran around and outlined the back of the jacket. A narrow plait extending from the shoulder to the edge of the jacket in front gave that slenderness of line, in which all women delight.

The sleeve, which came only to the elbow, was slashed up the outer side and was bordered with bands of white silk. It was caught across the loops of braid, fastened with buttons corresponding to the front of the jacket. The collar was rather a unique touch, for while the front was made of voile, the back was of white silk.

Praise be to Allah, that American women stick to their independence and refuse to submit to the care and burden of trailing skirts! French dressmakers may praise its grace and subtlety, the joy of long and flowing lines; but Madam American puts her foot down and says a most emphatic "No!" And she means it. So, on the street and for all except the most formal occasions the trim ankle-length skirt is still "the thing." Mrs. Longworth's skirt was well off the ground and allowed a glimpse of Alice blue silk-covered instep and patent leather pump, which was very fetching. A narrow front gore had the two-side front gores laid onto it with a vertical plait. These plaits or tucks widened gradually from the waist band to about 10 inches from the bottom of the skirt. There they terminated under an ornament made of three loops of braid fastened with a button. The plaits were formed with one row of stitching, and the deep hem at the bottom of the skirt was also machine-stitched. The side gores and the back met with plaits in the same way, and they also ended under a braid ornament. Just above the gore each hem was ornamented with a shaped piece of material narrowly edged with braid. Above this was a row of braid which ended in the ornaments mentioned.

With this gown Mrs. Longworth wore one of the flat black hats she so much affects. It was set rather far back on her head and emphasized the new tilt. Of course you have noticed the new tilt—the general effect of sliding off backwards, which seems to have suddenly attacked coiffure and hat.

No longer does the pompadour rise jauntily from the feminine brow. To be truly up to date the hair must be caught softly backward to the crown of the head, there to nestle in puffs and rolls, from which the pendant curls bob in a way quite fascinating enough to captivate any mere man. Hats are set at the same alarming angle—even the hat trimmings are retiring into the background. But be not alarmed! This does not mean that the wearers are going to imitate the shy and shrinking violet. Fashion is only less contradictory than lovely woman herself.

A new skirt has just made its appearance—an audacious billowy skirt which frou-frous and flutes in a way quite fascinating. It had come, and come to stay, for on the lawn at Bennings it was worn by no less fashionable a person than Mrs. Perry Belmont. Of course, no race meet would be quite complete without this interesting woman, who is equally at home in Washington and New York.

Mrs. Perry Belmont shares with her husband a genuine love of racing as a sport, and is often seen near the paddock caressing the soft nose of some victorious thoroughbred. She looked particularly well on this occasion in a costume of her favorite black and white, an adaptation of the suspender dress and striking in its chic simplicity.

Black broadcloth was used for the skirt and for the wide wrinkled belt which fastened in two points in the back. Two three-inch straps, also of broadcloth, ran from the belt in front up to the shoulders. Just over the turn of the shoulder—and here is a touch which give distinction and which you should jot down in your notebook—the two straps became one. It really gave the effect of their being cut in that way, but on looking more closely I found that the two straps were just softly crushed together.

Irish lace is still quite the lace. It has an air of richness and luxury about it which appeals to fashionable women.

Mrs. Belmont's waist was of this lace, untrimmed, except for plisse ruffles of chiffon finishing the elbow sleeve and four stunning oval buttons of cut jet down the front of the waist. For this year what is a gown without buttons? It reminds me of the old game of "Button, button, Who's got the button?" Of course, the answer is "Every one!"

But I am sure you are anxious to hear about the skirt. Like many things which at first glance seem impossibly complicated it was, in reality, quite simple. Shall I let you into the secret? The clever dressmaker had simply cut alternate gores on the straight and on the bias of the cloth. The bias gores were put on to look like box plaits, and they hung with a splendid swing which at once gave character to the skirt.

There was a little necktie of black taffeta as a finish to the collar, and with this costume Mrs. Belmont wore long suede gloves.

Mrs. Patrick Calhoun's gown of dark blue veiling quite suited her blond coloring. It was a simple little frock of walking length. The skirt was side plaited, an arrangement of plaits repeated in the waist. A chemisette of tucked mousseline and lace with turned back collar of white, edged with a tiny piping of pale blue and white, gave the needed contrast. The sleeves had a turned back cuff of white, piped like the collar. Below the cuff was a straight band of lace. Brass buttons—toujours les boutons, you see—fastened the collars and cuffs. An ornament deftly contrived of taffeta silk, from which hung two ends, was placed just below the collar in front. The little bows on the collar were also of taffeta. The wide girdle was of veiling.

I saw Miss Elizabeth Winthrop Stevens, who is of particular interest as one of the spring brides, on the avenue the other day in such a charming hat that I think I must tell you about it. It seemed to speak of spring flowers and youth and sunshine—a symphony of tender green and rose pink. It was the inevitable mushroom shape, and Miss Stevens wore it set well back on her head. The brim had taffeta silk shot in green and pale pink drawn around it. The crown was a fluff of green tulle, and across it was thrown a garland of pink roses. A curled aigrette sprang from the left side. Inside the brim soft folds of tulle made a becoming setting for the youthful face.

# Women and Marriage

By Mrs. John A. Logan.
(Copyright, 1907, by American-Journal-Examiner)

PROFESSOR William I. Thomas of the Chicago university has written what he calls a book on the above subject, which for meaningless platitudes, incoherency and disgusting suggestions surpasses anything that has ever been penned on the sacred subject he essays to discuss with unblushing freedom.

If the excerpts which I have read are in any sense correct, I am amazed that any man, a professor in a co-educational university would put in print such a diatribe.

I blush to confess that I have read and reread every word that has appeared of this publication; and I have failed utterly to extract a single pure thought that proves anything touching women.

His mind seems to have been wholly occupied with the animal that is in mankind. He pays a poor compliment to his mother and his wife, if he has one, if there is any meaning in what he says in regard to the morality and modesty of women.

"Morality is preeminently an adult and a male system and men are intelligent enough to recognize that neither women nor children have passed through this school. It is on this account that, while man is merciless to woman from the standpoint of personal behavior, he exempts her from anything like contractual morality."

It is difficult to understand what he does mean by such a string of incongruous sentences.

The concise definition of morality in Webster is "the practice of duty; obedience to the moral law; virtue; goodness." The gender of the word is not given, and one wonders where Professor Thomas got his authority to denominate it masculine. Morality is a virtue equally admirable in men and women, and not, as Professor Thomas would have one think, not expected in women and children, and he should have added idiots, as men of his stamp are wont to do in classifying irresponsible human beings.

It is little wonder that there is so much complaint of demoralization of young people and the assertion that a majority of them have false ideas of life and their duties, when books of the character of Professor Thomas's' "The Adventitious Character of Woman," and Mrs. Parson's "Trial Divorce" theories are allowed to be distributed broadcast, both of which have wrought incalculable wrong to old and young.

Professor Thomas has written so plainly upon the most sacred relations of life as to excite the indignation of every pure-minded person. He discusses topics that should never be mentioned in print, and makes suggestions that are absolutely revolting to one with a particle of refinement; and yet, unfortunately, he is a professional educator.

It seems high time that some one was appointed to censor literary productions which emanante from universities, so that the public might know the influence under which the characters of students are being formed.

## BARBER'S OWN HAIRCUT

### He May Get It in His Own Shop or He May Go to Another.

The customer sitting in the chair, with the barber trimming his locks, wondered what the barber did when he wanted a hair cut.

"I do just what you do," said the barber; "I go to a barber shop and get it cut.

"Some barbers do that, and then some get their hair cut by a fellow barber in the shop in which they work. Getting it cut by another barber in your own shop might seem the most natural thing to do, and then you cut the other fellow's hair in return when it needs cutting; but that isn't the most comfortable way, and it isn't the best way for the shop.

"You see, it takes two men off the chairs, to begin with, the man who is getting his hair cut and the man who is cutting it, and that's bad, because you don't know how many customers may come in; and if customers do come in that may make it uncomfortable for the barber in the chair.

"Once when I was getting my hair cut in my own shop customers flocked in when the work on my head was about half done, and of course I had to get busy on them; and they kept coming steadily from that on, and so I stood and worked all day with my own hair trimmed on one side and not on the other.

"A man can shave himself and a man can trim his own beard if he wants to, though no man can begin to do that as well as a barber can do it for him, but no man can cut his own hair, and so we all have to get our hair cut, and to look well a man ought to get his hair and beard trimmed every two weeks; and every two weeks regularly I go out to another shop and get my hair cut and get fixed up, and I go always to the same shop.

"You've been coming here and sitting in my chair for four years. I've been going to the shop I go to and getting my hair cut by the same barber for six years. Once every two weeks I get around there and get my hair cut and a shave, and usually a shampoo.

"You see, I'm standing here all day and day after day shaving other people and cutting their hair, and it's a sort of a change and a relief and a comfort generally to sit down in a chair once in a while and get somebody to do this work for me, and I go about this in the most comfortable way; every two weeks when I get my hair cut I go to a shop where I get my work done and sit down in the chair of my regular barber as a customer."

### Phonograph Scares Thieves.

The wave of crime which has been passing over Paris lately and which the police seem quite powerless to prevent has caused the citizens to adopt various devices to protect their homes from invasion by the Apaches. Dogs having proven utterly useless, more than one family has sought protection by placing a stand with a parrot or cockatoo possessing a specially loud squawk just inside their flats—almost everyone in Paris lives in a flat.

An electrical engineer, however, has found a phonograph the best possible watchman. He locates it with the megaphone attachment directed to the door and he has wired the hall and arranged batteries so that the moment the door is opened three inches the phonograph gets into action.

It begins to bellow "Police! Help! Murder! Thieves!" and it keeps it up until he gets out of bed and turns off the current.

His flat is well furnished with plats and other valuables and several attempts have been made to rob it, but no thieves have yet withstood the phonograph bombardment. They run so quickly that they are never caught.

The 800 granite cutters who went on strike at Hardwick, Vermont, on March 1 have returned to work. Both sides have signed an agreement to continue for four years.

# Individual Responsibility

By Mrs. John A. Logan.
(Copyright, 1907, by American-Journal-Examiner)

THE question of individual responsibility has latterly occupied the attention of thinkers, teachers, jurists and preachers, and it is to be hoped that there may be a universal awakening on this simple proposition.

We have drifted too far into a feeling that society, legislative bodies, corporations, associations and those in authority, are responsible for existing conditions, for the welfare of the church, the state and nation, without stopping to inquire whether or not we have as individuals performed our duties faithfully.

Upon every human being rests a direct obligation and accountability for the talent he has. Every one has one or more according to what God has given him.

Individuals forget that they are an integral part of society, church, community, state and country. And yet the days go by without their feeling twinges of conscience because of their indifference to their moral responsibility in human affairs. If approached in the interest of charity they are ready with excuses for their lack of generosity. If requested to aid in the preservation of law and order they insist upon their exemption from duty because they are not in official position or are unacquainted with the modus operandi of legal matters.

If some knotty question affecting society comes up they dodge behind some leader and play fast and loose shirking their duty and leaving the few to struggle for the supremacy of right and the condemnation of the wrong. If trouble arises in the church they are ready to accuse the congregation of neglect and indifference, invariably failing to include themselves in the category in which they place others.

A hideous evil often makes its appearance in a community. A few brave spirits will combat it with unflagging vigilance, while the many will shrink from actual participation in its suppression, but when the victory has been won by the minority the majority will join in the general rejoicing and felicitation over its eradication.

Persons of vicious character will sometimes dare to intrude themselves upon society, and it is astonishing to witness the cowardice of the many who seem too timid to do their part toward the expulsion of dangerous spirits, leaving the few to accomplish the desired step.

When the country is in danger from foreign or domestic foes it is the few who spring to the rescue and the hosts lag behind until victory is vouchsafed to the patriotic.

The most appalling shirking of responsibility follows great disasters that are the result of criminal carelessness. Incompetent agents of corporations are entrusted with important duties that should not be given into the hands of any but intelligent and well trained men of absolutely correct habits. Other reliable and experienced agents are forced to remain on duty for so many hours that tired nature gives out and catastrophes ensue.

Is there not gross disregard of individual responsibility somewhere, or incompetency and overtaxed human nature would have no place in the service of great corporations.

It may be asked, what can one person accomplish with the multitude? If every one would stand firmly on the principle of individual responsibility the multitude would be on the side of right, and accidents would be fewer and there would be an equalization of the obligations of mankind. No one can cancel the personal accountability of another. Each must render an account in that day when the secrets of all hearts are laid bare.

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All trackmen between the lakes and Vancouver on the Canadian Pacific railway have received an advance of 8 per cent in wages.

## THE NATIONAL TAILOR

### Also Dressmaker — Also Haberdasher—New York All Three.

The interesting fact has been brought to light that the most important industry in the state of New York is the making of women's clothes. Until recently the making of men's clothes had the leading position, but dressmaking has moved to the top.

The output of these two industries during the past year was valued at $340,000,000, which is within $25,000,000 of the total value of all the products of the steel works and rolling mills of Pennsylvania.

Nearly 75,000 people live upon the making of women's clothes and 53,000 more are engaged in making clothes for men. Out of every 100 people who work in the industrial pursuits of New York state are engaged in making clothes for men and women. Nearly $62,000,000 was paid out to these workers in one year.

New York is the national dressmaker, tailor and haberdasher. Out of every $100 worth of clothing made for women in one year this state produced $70 worth. In collars and cuffs for men New York manufactured nearly 97 per cent of the entire output of the nation.

"It may be noted," says the World's Work, "that the value of men's furnishings has fallen behind, as compared with 1900. It leads to a suspicion that mere man, if married, is carrying a burden that grows heavier year by year. Far be it from us to hint that any man goes collarless or cuffless because his wife—but why pursue this painful study of statistics further?"

### Buried in Evening Dress.

The will of the late Sir James Colquhoun, Bart., of Luss, which has been registered in Edinburgh, directed that his body should be dressed for burial in full evening costume, and laid in a plain oak coffin, so that those who cared for him during his life might see him for the last time. He bequeathed the family portraits to his successor, while the residue of his property will go to his widow and £100 each to his executors.