



### OUR WEEKLY WOMAN'S LETTER.

**Common Sense Fads—Locomotion in General and Divided Skirts in Particular—Bicycles and Bifurcated Pet-trots.**

The promised innovations in gowns which will enable the practice of riding astride to be practically illustrated have been ushered in both in England and America. The English lady, always willing to appear ungainly if it be only conventional, has adopted the masculine idea of a long coat, almost to the ankles, divided front and aft with high boots and a stiff silk hat to top off the whole. Many of the blue-blooded ladies have already appeared thus clad in the parks. In America the Jenness-Miller divided skirt, a pretty and even graceful idea, is to be the acceptable dress for the pedestrienne and equestrienne. And ready the hundreds of ladies who traverse over boulevards on their bicycles have claimed them as the most comfortable for freedom of locomotion and at the same time they are hard to distinguish from the old made skirt. Like a winged thing ethereal she skims over the meadow, perched high and dry on the daring spring saddle, alternately propelling the thing, one foot never interfering with the other by the pull of skirts, for each limb has its individual petticoat. The full plait over the hip throw sufficient fullness to the front to make the garment appear as one piece, and often has it passed unsuspected through crowds of well dressed ladies from shop to shop and even in the cars. The American fancy is decidedly inferior to the English long-gowned masculine gown, for it is a general purpose garment which, mounted or afoot, never loses its familiarity and at the same time serving every purpose for freedom of action.

Heretofore, in every revision or attempted revision of the tariff, the protection professedly accorded to agriculture has been largely insipidative. The duties imposed upon products, of which we grow a surplus to sell, have little effect upon the prices of such products, and such duties merely fail to afford the farmer anything like a fair share of the protection accorded to other industries.

The farmers will welcome the removal of duties from jute, jute burlap, manilla, and sisal grass, not grown by American farmers, with the reduction from \$1 to 10 cents per pound on blinder twine. They will also be pleased to have free sugar. The sugar industry has been protected for many years without materially increasing home production, and thereby reducing prices. A removal of the duty is expected to reduce the cost to the consumer, while the beauty gives direct encouragement to home production. This is an experiment which a large majority of our people wish to see tried.

There are imported into this country many agricultural products which crowd and depress the markets in which we sell our produce because there are no duties or because the duties are too low to protect. In view of the fact that it is proposed to protect fully other interests, we insist on duties upon such imported products as will afford full protection to the American producer of like commodities.

We therefore endorse the increased duty on barley, live-stock, hogs, potatoes, beans, wool, etc., as set forth in the schedule recently reported by the committee on ways and means.

She is perhaps immortalized in more wonderful paintings than any other modern woman, having a beautiful contour which causes her uncomman pose upon the horse to seem less open to criticism. She is a woman of rare culture and attainments, the companion and helper of her husband and one of the foremost practitioners of aesthetic dressing.

It is worthy comment on the beauty and utility of the reform that women of this stamp are its initiators.

Many of our so called fashion judges have passed sentence upon this semi-masculine athletic-gown, but as their reasonings can admit of the correctness of tight laced waists and expanded backs, the opinion passed by them against sensible garments is worthless. Madam Grundy always has to succumb when utility and art combine in recommending that which may seem shocking to a perverted taste.

The lady's Safety bicycle has made a wonderful leap into popularity in a few short months. They are quite as numerously seen as the other varieties and have thrown the tricycle into the back ground. This wheel is a thing of grace with its high seat and curved shaft, the going all screened from the skirt, and when with a pretty leap the fair rider mounts—the first spring sends the wheel off with a bound, and all so beautifully poised.

This "safety" wheel as it is called has been a sort of six equalling, giving the lady every advantage that a man enjoys as a cyclist—swiftness and grace, and compared to the bulky, showy-cased tricycle it is indeed a perfect invention. The most novel thing is the family tandem wheel, wherein wife and husband take a swing with a little seat extending to the front a few feet, with the baby strapped into it, the whole thing moving with the foot brake—a family carriage without a horse, a two-wheeled animal where neither devotes nor runs away. When first introduced this machine caused a great deal of comment and ridicule. But America's progressiveness is propelling many schemes that though ludicrous to old foggies are just as sound as is adopted as the much laughed at umbrella. Horses have had their day. These are more inventions reported lately for the doing away of horse locomotion than for any other one thing. Carriages run by steamship need not seem any more absurd than many things thus drawn. In this age of rapid transit when men and women are no longer content with the speed of their own legs to carry them about we may expect the next adoption of that still wonderful machine, the bicycle, and since it has become a popular woman's favorite in day of parades, is indeed come, for she never takes hold of any progressive innovation in vain. And especially will she become the patroness of an innovation that is a combined manly vehicle, shape and nurse girl, besides being all the go.

### How to Cure Nervousness.

A body with a nervous temperament will make known its wants through its natural medium—the nervous system. It is hard to recover proper nourishment the nerves will be the first to cry out. Dr. Hiller's Nervousness Remedy is what we want, and a perfectly balanced body cannot be nervous. See me at Dr. J. Foy's.

# Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

### THE FARMERS AND THE TARIFF.

A number of newspapers are assailing the McKinley bill for increasing the duties on some articles of farm products. They do so, ignorant of the fact that the duties were raised at the request of the representatives of the farmers. At its 22nd annual session the National Grange appointed its legislative committee composed of three general officers and national representative. At this open congress the views, wishes and claims of the American farmers.

This committee issued a circular letter to the senators and members of congress and appealed before the Ways and Means committee to secure such a revision of the tariff as the farmers demanded in the way of increased duties on agricultural products. For the information of apparently unadvised journalists, who are assailing the McKinley bill which passed the house amended according to this plan and the personal efforts of the committee, we print the circular on the tariff:

### THE FARMER'S DEMAND FOR INCREASED DUTIES.

In the proposed revision of the tariff, we insist that there shall be no discrimination against the agricultural interests.

Heretofore, in every revision or attempted revision of the tariff, the protection professedly accorded to agriculture has been largely insipidative. The duties imposed upon products, of which we grow a surplus to sell, have little effect upon the prices of such products, and such duties merely fail to afford the farmer anything like a fair share of the protection accorded to other industries.

The farmers will welcome the removal of duties from jute, jute burlap, manilla, and sisal grass, not grown by American farmers, with the reduction from \$1 to 10 cents per pound on blinder twine. They will also be pleased to have free sugar. The sugar industry has been protected for many years without materially increasing home production, and thereby reducing prices. A removal of the duty is expected to reduce the cost to the consumer, while the beauty gives direct encouragement to home production. This is an experiment which a large majority of our people wish to see tried.

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