

DRESS AND THE WOMAN.

There is No Surer Sign of Degeneracy Than a Lack of Interest in Her Apparel.

It is sometimes said that clothes do not make the person; but, while that may be in a measure true, it is quite correct that all persons are in a degree influenced by the clothes they wear, and that as an outward expression of inward grace, or the contrary, there is no truer indication, says Elizabeth Robbins Berry, in Boston Budget.

To those not blessed with an abundance of means there come seasons—rather between seasons—when the entire wardrobe appears to have suddenly grown rusty and woebegone in appearance. This is especially the case in the late winter and early spring, after the long months of hard wear, and while yet motives of health and economy preclude a change. One is painfully conscious of worn edges and a general lack of freshness of attire, and the most conscientious attention to detail and care in the general make-up does not suffice to restore the self-respect one experienced when one's garments were new.

It is a question if much of the spring "tired feeling" of which we hear may not be attributable to this cause. Certain it is that with the coming of Easter raiment one's physical (?) woes are largely forgotten.

While undue attention to and extravagance in dress may be an indication of weakness and shallowness, it is equally true that indifference and inattention to personal appearance betoken at least a lack of appreciation for the fitness of things. It is certainly a greater pleasure to listen to a cultivated woman if she is pleasing to look upon. Physical beauty may be lacking, but with a well-fitting gown of harmonious coloring, suitable for the occasion on which it is worn, with the person made attractive by careful grooming—we dislike the word, but no other expresses so much—one's power and influence are inevitably increased.

We once knew a man whose especial pride was a beautiful horse, which he often drove with a carriage and fittings upon which extreme care and attention were lavished. Yet when all was in readiness he would take his own seat, unshaven, and wearing a coat and hat of most disreputable appearance, completely spoiling the effect he so much desired. So it is with the mistress of a beautiful home who fails to make her person and her toilettes harmonize with her surroundings.

There is no surer sign of degeneracy in a woman than a lack of interest in her apparel. We were once much impressed by the remark of an elderly woman, in commenting upon a younger one who had experienced a crushing sorrow, from which her friends feared she might not rally, and who had previously been noted for her immaculate dressing. In spite of her unhappiness she did not grow careless in that respect, and because of that fact the older woman said: "I have no fears for her. Her heart is not broken."

The advance of a feeling of indifference in matters of dress should be resisted as strenuously as one would ward off a disease which was undermining one's life. It indicates decadence in some particular. Business women especially should guard against such approach. It is so easy to become careless when one is tired and is left to oneself. Yet who has not experienced a sensation of restfulness and refreshment when the temptation to forego a fresh evening toilette has been successfully resisted.

We recall the story of an Englishman who in seven years spent alone upon a western ranch never omitted to make an evening toilet, and thereby felt himself in touch with civilization. The incident might well serve as a text for innumerable sermons. There is no surer conservator of the virtues and graces than the self-respect one feels when carefully and appropriately dressed. Then and then only is one unconscious of self.

Making Over a Shabby Skirt.
A skirt that has grown shabby at the hem could be made to do active service again by cutting it ten inches shorter and then sewing on a flounce of the same material, or velveteen if preferred. This style of skirt is likely to increase in popularity and remain fashionable throughout the spring season. The upper part of the skirt consists of four pieces—a front, side piece each side and a seamless box plaited back.

The deep flounce is sewed on and has to be cut out on the circle. The top of the flounce is not gathered, but must be machine stitched to the edge of the skirt.

In this way the flounce forms itself into undulating curves which give elegance to the movements of any sort of figure.

If the skirt is to be made of new material, five yards of ordinary double width woolen material will be sufficient for a full size skirt, and in order to be effective the center of back must measure three inches longer than the front.—Washington Star.

Celery Salad.
Cut the tender stalks of celery into such pieces to make three cups, marinate with a French dressing. Serve in a ring of tomato jelly, and garnish with curried celery, shredded lettuce and mayonnaise dressing.—Good Housekeeping.

Geographic Centers.
If the world were divided into land and water hemispheres, London is the center of the land and New Zealand of the water.—Science.

BRINGS HER FAME.

Young Woman Artist Painting the Portrait of President McKinley, Who Poses for Her.

Lillian Thomas, a portrait painter, whose fame heretofore seems to have been limited to Columbus, O., her native town, woke the other morning to find that she had achieved distinction through the publication of the fact that she is engaged in making a portrait of President McKinley. The president posed for her the other day in Washington and Mrs. Thomas has returned to New York.

"I found," said Mrs. Thomas, in discussing her recent experience with the president, "that he has changed greatly in the past five or six years. His face shows much more character and less of the politician, if I may put it that way. I have made two studies of him. The last one, the one for which he posed on Friday, is planned to pose in a way similar to that in which he appears in a photograph taken in Washington six months ago. That photograph is his favorite one. I am painting this picture for a society whose name I am not at liberty to reveal at present.

"I found the president as courteous and considerate as a man could possibly be. The picture was merely sketched in, of course, at the sitting, but the president seemed to be pleased with the progress I had made."

Mrs. Thomas studied several years in the Columbus art school, from which she was graduated, and afterwards in art schools in St. Louis and Chicago.

FARRAGUT'S OLD FLAGSHIP.

Famous Warship Hartford at Brooklyn Navy Yard for Short Stop—Is Now a Training Ship.

After an absence from these waters of 26 years, the famous old warship Hartford is again at the Brooklyn navy yard. It was in 1875 that Admiral Farragut's old flagship was last in the port of New York. The Hartford was laid up for years at the Mare Island navy yard, San Francisco, until it was decided to remodel her and fit her out for service as a training ship. The vessel is now on a training cruise, with a crew of 480 men and boys, most of them apprentices.

The Hartford sailed from San Francisco about a year ago. Her cruise extended to Boston. She left that port in July of last year on another cruise, going first to England, then to Holland, Belgium, France and Portugal. From European ports she went to the West Indies. While there she was ordered to Venezuela. Returning from southern waters, she stopped at Washington, and from there went to Boston, coming to Brooklyn from the latter port.

When the Hartford leaves New York she will go on another European and West Indian cruise, returning to Hampton Roads October 1.

FREE GOLD IN VIRGIN ROCK.

Mine in Arizona Reported to Show Evidence of Fabulous Richness.

Mining men at Phoenix, Ariz., are excited over what appears to be the greatest gold discovery ever made in that territory. The Oro Grande, a new mine opened by G. E. Lamb and George B. Upton, of Clinton, Ia., and B. O. Hatfield, of Montana, seems to contain untold wealth. In a few months, during which time the owners have suppressed the news of the strike, there has been outlined in the Oro Grande a mass of rock said to be valued at \$1,500,000.

Mining experts declare there are many more millions in the rock of the mammoth ledge traced along the surface for 4,000 feet. The vein varies in width from 100 to 300 feet. Its depth has not been ascertained, although miners are down 100 feet, and the whole deposit is apparently rich in free gold.

Some of the ore taken out has assayed, the miners assert, at the rate of \$40,000 to the ton. Every carload that comes to the surface shows flashes of gold to the naked eye.

OWNS COSTLIEST AUTO.

W. T. Dannat, the American Artist at Paris, Has Fine Horseless Carriage.

W. T. Dannat, a famous American artist at Paris, is now enjoying the distinction of owning the most powerful and costliest automobile yet made. It was built especially by the Daimler firm of Germany. It is of the same type as the famous auto named Mercedes, which created such a stir two months ago when Lorraine Barrow entered it at the Pau races. However, Dannat's is still faster, being capable of making 150 kilometers an hour, equal to 93 miles. This terrific pace is feasible only on a good straight road and cannot be maintained safely over ten minutes, as the machinery would tear apart. But 75 miles may be sustained for half an hour and 70 indefinitely. Dannat's automobile is like a formidable engine of destruction. It is built low and very long. Its horse power is 52. Vanderbilt's new machine, now being built at the Parisian branch of the Daimler firm, will be an exact duplicate.

Irish Evicted and Derelict Farms.
In County Clare, Ireland, there are 120 evicted farms, 47 of which are derelict, which means abandonment by landlord and tenant, the former being unable to stock them. In County Limerick there are 90 evicted farms, 14 being derelict. In County Kerry there are 241 evicted farms, 23 being derelict.

OUR BOOTS ABROAD.

Rapid Growth in Exports of Footwear from United States.

Fast Inroads Being Made on the Trade of Great Britain in Her Own Markets—Situation Causing Alarm.

The rapid growth of the exports of boots and shoes from the United States is attracting the attention of the manufacturing world and of the representatives in the United States of the manufacturing countries of the world. The British commercial agent in the United States has forwarded to his home government a statement regarding the exportation of boots and shoes from the United States, in which he cites the figures relating to our exports to the United Kingdom, British West Indies, Australasia and Africa, and says: "A glance at these figures will show how American-made boots and shoes are being pushed with success in places where British-made goods ought to have practically the monopoly."

This report, a copy of which has reached the treasury bureau of statistics through the British Board of Trade Journal, shows that the exports of boots and shoes during the 12 months ending December 31, 1900, to the United Kingdom, British West Indies, British Australasia and British Africa from the United States have grown from £142,328 in 1898 to £323,308 in 1899, and £426,124 in 1900, and that the exports of a similar character from the United Kingdom to British West Indies, British Australasia and South Africa have slightly decreased meantime, being in 1898, £1,092,094; in 1899, £1,001,927, and in 1900, £1,075,478.

Commenting on this growth of American sales in British territory and absence of growth of British sales in the same territory, the report says:

"Why this state of affairs should be possible is not, at first, quite clear. It means, either the American-made article is cheaper than the British-made one, or that it is of better quality. Taking it for granted that the British boots and shoes are not inferior to those of America, there must be some important reason why the latter should cost less than the former. That America is a large exporter of leather to the United Kingdom shows that they can manufacture it cheaper. Considering that so much of the raw material has to be imported into the United States by tanners, there seems no reason why leather should not be manufactured as cheap or cheaper in the United Kingdom. Needless to say, only the latest improvements in the general process of tanning are employed in the United States. It is the use of so much improved machinery that enables the American manufacturer to turn out such large quantities, and do it so cheaply.

"American manufacturers are going to make a bid for the South American boot trade, as well as the European and colonial. There is also some talk of an American factory being started in the City of Mexico."

FUEL OF COMMON EARTH.

Nebraska Claims to Have Made a Discovery of Much Importance.

E. J. Hoffman, of 1819 Leavenworth street, Omaha, Neb., says he has set the earth afire. He professes to have invented a process whereby the clods of the field will burn with all the gusto of anthracite coal. Crude petroleum, mixed with common earth (gumbo and sand alone excluded), with the addition of two other ingredients, the nature of which constitutes his secret, will make a fuel that will burn better and with a cleaner fire than pine knots. Seventy-five per cent. of this concoction is mother earth. The expense of the other three ingredients is only a trifle. His fuel costs \$2.50 a ton. Said he:

"I began experimenting. The first thing I did was to mix the oil and earth together and try to burn them in the form of mud, but that wouldn't work. The oil simply burned out and left the earth practically unchanged. Then I extended my investigations, and finally, after years of close application, hit upon the secret. I am confident now that I have the problem solved."

BURN CHURCH MORTGAGE.

Officials of New York Church Carry Out Novel Ceremony on the Clearing of Church Debt.

A mortgage for \$100,000 on St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal church, Seventy-sixth street, near Columbus avenue, New York, was cremated Sunday. Fourteen years the church property was incumbered to the extent of \$100,000. The burning was done in the presence of a large congregation, the trustees and other officers of the church, former pastors, a bishop, and some leading clergymen of the denomination.

An elaborate order of exercises, inscribed "Burning of the Mortgage," was followed.

The treasurer handed to the pastor the mortgage wrapped in heavy paper. Page by page it was torn and placed in a receptacle that looked like a bird cage. Placing the match to the pile the pastor remarked:

"This is the first time so ritualistic a ceremony has invaded our non-ritualistic church."

GO TO SEEK HOMES.

British Girls Hired by Chamberlain's Glowing Pictures.

Thousands Flock to South Africa and Other Colonies Where Husbands and Fortunes Await Them—Steps for Their Protection.

Canvassers representing the British branch of the Y. W. C. A. are gathering funds from the principal cities, towns and villages of the United Kingdom for the fresh prosecution of their work in South Africa and other parts of the empire. It is intended to supply the association with buildings at the principal British ports in the whole world, for the reception and temporary accommodation of women emigrants going forth from the British isles to find homes in the colonies.

Emigrant experts in London anticipate that under the stimulus of the government incentive and the general imperial enthusiasm this year the number of British women leaving their native land to try their fortunes in India, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Canada will reach an enormous total.

Miss Mary Morley, treasurer of the World's Young Women's Christian association, said to the Chicago Record correspondent:

"Mr. Chamberlain's glowing picture of the happy home awaiting our girls in South Africa and other countries under the British flag has produced a profound stir among those to whom it was addressed. Young women who have found the conditions of life hard at home take the colonial secretary at his word and want to get away. Thousands of them, if they can go at all, must go at once, and naturally their peril moves us to attempt measures for their protection.

"We intend to place capable members of the association at Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and other points to receive the girl emigrants when they arrive. They will be sheltered in our buildings as far as possible, and every effort will be made to start them properly in their new life.

"All our girl emigrants will not go to South Africa. Large numbers will seek other parts of the empire, and therefore we must extend our system of safeguards well around the globe. Very large sums will be required for all this, but we expect that British lovers of the race will promptly supply all we need. I am sure that our American members will sympathize with our undertaking."

WILL WAGE WAR ON VICE.

Paris to Have a Daily Paper Which Will Promote Cleaner Morals.

The daily newspaper called "La Morale Publique" will start publication at Paris the 1st of April, backed by a powerful association, including society women, senators, lawyers and men prominent in every calling. The prospectus announces that the paper, besides giving the news, will make a special feature of defending the public by obtaining necessary laws and prodding the sluggish authorities to a rigorous application thereof. It will wage war against improper illustrated papers, vicious books, questionable posters, free-tree stage productions and dens of all sorts. The prospectus says:

"France, and especially Paris, long have been held up to foreign nations as places where vice is most freely displayed and most artistically catered to. We intend to purify the capital and country and regain their good name. We want Paris and we want France respectable and clean. We shall protect wives and children from corruption by overwhelming nastiness."

DRIVES COWS TANDEM.

Young Brazilian Heiress Astonishes the Residents of the French Capital.

A beautiful 16-year-old girl, Laura Rlenzo, who comes from Bahia, and is said to be the greatest heiress in Brazil, has for the last three days been driving through the fashionable thoroughfares of Paris two fast trotting cows harnessed tandem to a pretty cart. The animals are small, black and fiery, but obey the reins perfectly. The police at first were puzzled to know whether or not the law would permit the driving of such animals. An inspector called upon Miss Rlenzo at her residence, where he was assured that the trotting cows were perfectly gentle and had been trained in Rio de Janeiro by order of Rlenzo especially for his daughter's amusement. The team reached France a week ago. The owner of the Nouveau Cirque offered \$10,000 for the team, but the offer was declined.

Equal to the Task.

If a woman had to change her clothes every time she changed her mind she would never get a chance to look out of the window.—N. Y. Press. She would do it, though, says the Chicago Record, if she had a new gown for every change of mind.

Value of College Education.
That Englishman who says the college uplifts a man for the struggle of life has probably been drawing his conclusions, says the Chicago Times-Herald, from aspects presented by the football, tabasco sauce and spread-eagle reports alone.

Price of Cotton.

Cotton has ranged in price from \$1.50 a pound during the war to less than five cents a pound in 1899. In the last year and a half it has risen from five cents to 12.75 cents.

TO PLEASE THE PEOPLE.

Sheriff and Condemned Man Hurred the Hanging to Head Off a Riot.

"In the earlier days," said Walter Churchill, of Topeka, at the Hotel Imperial, "when a man was to be executed the community in which it occurred made an event of it. The hangings were held in public and in the open. Generally the gallows was placed on a hill, so that a good view could be had by all. The rural population, bringing their luncheon with them, came from the distant parts of the countryside, and the streets generally took on the appearance of fair or circus days. Booths, where lemonade and such things were sold, merry-go-rounds, shooting galleries, etc., were all there, and it was generally a lively, interesting and amusing day for everyone but the condemned. Apropos of this manner of treating an execution, my 'governor' used to tell an amusing story. The little town in the northern state from which he came was the county seat, and there one day was to occur a hanging. It was, I think, the last execution that occurred in that state, capital punishment having since been abolished there. When the fatal day for the accused man came the people began to arrive early. From far and near they came, and as the hour for the execution drew near the streets were jammed to suffocation. The execution was scheduled for noon, but at 10:30 the heavens took on an ominous look, and by 11 a drizzling rain had begun, which bore good promise of becoming a steady downpour before the day had waned," quotes the New York Tribune. "The people began to grow anxious, but the majority hung on. At this juncture the sheriff went to the condemned and said:

"Look here, Bill, the whole county has turned out to see you turned off, and now there's a rain started and everyone's anxious to get home. They'll most of them make it all right if they can start in a few minutes, but if they wait until noon the roads will be in bad condition and many of them won't get home in time to do the chores, and that's serious. You're to be hung in an hour, and an hour more or less can't make much difference to you, while it makes a lot to them. Now, like the good fellow that you are, won't you come out and be hung now?"

"After some thought the condemned man replied: 'I'll do it if you'll give me a red necktie to wear and hold an umbrella over me on my way to the gallows.'"

"This was agreed to, and that hanging was 'pulled off' an hour ahead of scheduled time, although the condemned complained bitterly that the water from it trickled down the back of his neck. Strange as it may seem, this story in its essential features is literally true."

A SINGULAR TRUST.

Thrashing an Amorous Rascal as Part of the Corporation's Duty.

As the members were finishing their cigars in the club smoking-room the conversation drifted to the soullessness of corporations. "That sort of talk is all very well," said the man from the west, relates the New York Tribune, "but I have a story to show that the rule has at least one exception. Some years ago the trust company I represent, through the death of a client, became guardian of the interests of his widow, who was a minor and an orphan. The young woman was impressionable, and soon after her husband's death became infatuated with a worthless fellow, who, though a married man, gained her promise to elope with him. Suspecting some such action on his part, we induced the girl to visit friends who might have been expected to keep a reasonable oversight of her. In spite of our precautions, however, the man made an appointment with her, met her, and was about to drive off with her when an agent of ours, who had been detailed to observe his movements, appeared, administered a sound thrashing to him, and advised him to leave town lest a worse thing befall him. He chose to stay and cause the arrest of our man for assault and battery. We retained the best counsel available to defend the case and finally won, but at a cost considerably greater than the value of the small estate we held in trust for the widow—and we just charged it to profit and loss and never rendered a bill. We figured that it had been our duty, as the girl's guardian, to safeguard her honor as well as her property, just as her father or brother would have done if she had had either, and that's what we did."

LICENSE GIVES THE CLEW.

How a Horde of House-Furnishing Agents Find Out Who is "a Bride to Be."

The bride says the fact that the marriage licenses are published leads to it. She declares that the annoyance is something awful. "It" in this case refers, as it would in many another, to the horde of agents and solicitors that swooped down upon her as soon as the fact of her marriage license was published, says the Kansas City Journal. There were men to sell her cooking stoves, others who would furnish her entire house and have it ready when the honeymoon trip was over and still others who had houses and lots for sale on the installment plan, not to speak of the hosts which made a specialty of legal services in case the marriage was not a happy one.

"It was terrible," said the bride, confidentially. "I was in the parlor with him the night before the wedding when the bell rang and a man sent his card in. I didn't know him, but Tom said show him in. He saw at once that the man with me was the one, so he tackled Tom.

"Ah, how fortunate," he said, "your future husband is here, and we can talk business. I am agent for Sellum & Co., furniture. I saw that you were to marry, and of course you will keep house. Of course; all the nice brides keep house now. I will take this opportunity to quote you prices on our goods. Here is my card; on the back are the liberal terms of payment we make to young couples just starting out. Please tell me how many rooms you expect to occupy. And what are their sizes? And will you want good furniture, or only fair?"

"Imagine that, and Tom and I there together. Wasn't it awful? We actually had to tell the fellow that we had already fixed and paid for everything and would want nothing for a year. And then he wanted to sell us some stove polish!"

One young man who was married lately said:

"I've had agents after me on every kind of a proposition. Right after I got my marriage license I began to receive circulars and have had calls from men who wanted to sell me furniture on the installment plan, sewing machines, clothing, dresses for my wife and I don't know what all. They not only called on me downtown and at my boarding house, but followed me up to my fiancée's, and those that didn't have the nerve to come in and see me while I was there would camp in ambush on the steps until I came out."

Sweeter Than Sugar.
Sycose is the new material used as a substitute for sugar in diabetes. Its sweetening power is 550 times greater than sugar.—Science.

SHELLS GROWING IN TANK.

Rapid Development of the Mother-of-Pearl Industry on the Calabrian Coast.

The principal mother-of-pearl fisheries of to-day are scattered about in various parts of the world, and the best known are perhaps those of Ceylon, Queensland, the Torres straits, the Bay of Panama, Juticeon on the Coromandel coast, and the Calabrian coast of Italy. It was only about ten years ago that a company was formed in Italy for the special purpose of cultivating the mother-of-pearl fisheries in Italy, and at the head of it was placed Sig. Comba, the distinguished Italian naturalist, who has made the pearl oyster a special subject of research. In 1860 Sig. Comba began his investigations on the cause and formation of pearls, and a few years later he obtained the sum of 20,000 francs from the Italian government to build an aquarium at Turin, where he might carry on his experiments on a larger scale. Shortly afterward the late Victor Emmanuel II. appointed Sig. Comba director of the royal zoological garden at Turin, where he obtained permission to construct two new aquariums, to which he transferred his oysters. Finally, it was decided to establish the industry on the Calabrian coast.

To further develop the fisheries it is now proposed to acquire 10,000 pearl oysters, of which 500 will be set aside for breeding purposes. It has been computed that the spawn produced by one of these molluscs in the open sea contains something like 12,000,000 eggs, says the Philadelphia Record. The majority of these are naturally lost, either because they serve as food to other animals, or because they get covered up by the sand or are carried away by the currents into places unsuited for their development. By breeding in tanks the dangers can for the most part be avoided, and certainly a twentieth part can be saved, which would give an average of 600,000 eggs for every shell, and a sum total of 300,000,000 for the 500 oysters set apart for breeding. But allowing that of these only the twentieth part develop, in the second year there would be a total of 15,000,000. Again, if only half of these survive all the natural and chance risks to which they may be exposed, still 7,500,000 would be laid down on the banks in the open sea. At the end of the seventh year say 50 per cent are fished up, that would give 37,500,000 shells, and at an average of three pounds per shell, would mean 5,625 tons of mother-of-pearl, which even were it all of the third quality, and worth but 1,500 francs a ton, would yet bring in a sum total of 7,530,000 francs. To carry out this scheme, the Italian government will spend 1,000,000 francs for the construction of breeding tanks, and a sum of 2,000,000 francs has already been set apart for the development of this industry on the coast of Calabria.