

poorness, while a good stuff will be a continual pleasure from its own excellence. A good dress material may be worn for years. It may be scoured, turned, dipped, made over, and at last given away, while a flimsy one is unfit even to give away after a little wear. To trimmings the same principle will apply. A woman will often spend in two or three years, on fringes and fancy trimmings, an amount which would purchase real lace sufficient for a life-time. The fringes wear out, fade, and are good for nothing in less than a season, while the lace would last out her time and then go down to her descendants. Yet she says she cannot afford to buy real lace. In purchasing dress goods, fancy stuffs should be looked upon with great suspicion, especially if they present an unusually fine appearance for the price. It is safer to keep to standard materials of which you have proved the durability, though even these will vary greatly in different years. If ladies would insist on obtaining durability, rather than cheapness, the manufacturers would soon rise to the demand, and would improve the style of their goods as fast as they are deteriorating them at present.

Having chosen a good material, have it, in the *second* place, *well made*. A well made garment wears longer, looks better, and is in every way