

There were dyes for cotton, dyes for wool and dyes for silk, all the colors in every imaginable shade. Would they dye ribbons? The clerk assured them they would; so the girls made their selection and hurried home as fast as their feet would carry them.

They gathered together their dresses and ribbons and repaired to the kitchen and commenced operations. They washed the goods thoroughly. Maud remarked that it was necessary to have them thoroughly cleaned and that borax was a good thing to use in the water, or washing soda if not used too strong, but if soap alone were used, the goods must be rinsed thoroughly, as there was danger of some of the grease adhering to the garments, which would prevent an even color. In every case the goods should be well washed and rinsed. The dyes were put in clear vessels and boiled until thoroughly dissolved. After the liquor was perfectly made they let it cool down and put the goods in, stirring them with a stick for about ten minutes, applying the heat again slowly until it came to a boil and the goods thoroughly obtained the full depth of color they required. For light shades they let the goods boil in the dye for about fifteen minutes, and when they used the dark shades they let it boil from thirty minutes to one hour and a half, according to the depth of color they desired. They allowed the dye to penetrate every part of the garment and never allowed the goods to float on the top while in the dye. Immediately after taking the goods from the dye pot they washed them in clear water and allowed them to dry quickly. After that the garments and ribbons were pressed and the girls were astonished and delighted at the results. The goods were bright and looked just like new. It took the rest of the day to alter and trim the dresses to suit their tastes. The ribbons were lovely. The day following Mr. Augustus Mulberry walked homeward, tired and sick at heart. He knew his daughters had been invited to the ball, and like a good father who takes an interest in his family, he wanted them to look at their best. But—that awful but—he had all he could do to put food into their mouths without buying new and costly dresses. He was sorry for his daughters, for he knew that they had a certain pride in them which was hard to overcome, and he was unable to

uphold them in their ideas. He loved them. As he entered his home Mabel and Maud greeted him with the usual kiss. At supper he thought the girls were unusually jolly and he could not make it out, but he decided to say nothing but keep up his end of the jokes that were passing. He noticed, too, that his daughters rose from the table earlier than usual and disappeared out of the dining room. He asked his wife what they were up to, but she gave him little satisfaction, and, taking up the evening paper, he sought his easy chair, and in a few moments was deep into an account of a battle between the Chinese and Japs. He was so interested that he did not hear anyone enter the room.

"Good evening, papa," said Mabel.

No answer.

"Ahem!" joined in Maud, with as little effect.

"Ahem!" shouted the both together in a manner that would have made the sphinx turn its head.

This brought Mr. Augustus Mulberry to his senses, and on looking up he beheld both his daughters gaily attired in beautiful new dresses, as he thought.

"Where in the name of common sense did you get those?" he gasped.

"Guess."

"There are no fairy godmothers in these days, I'll be bound," said Mulberry with an intense look of surprise in his eyes.

"No? That is all you know, then."

"Well, where did you get them; they must have cost quite a lot," continued the father with much interest.

"No, not so much as you think," said Maud. "Only a few cents; Turkish Dyes did it."

"Well, I be blowed; who would have thought it. Why, I never saw such brilliant and beautiful dresses, and what beautiful ribbons."

No wonder he was surprised, for the dresses were, indeed, beautiful, and he praised the girls for their tact and ingenuity.

The ball came off, as all balls do, and the two Mulberry girls were voted the belles by all the nice young bachelors present. Miss Smithers remarked that Mulberry must be getting rich, and Miss Jones had no word to express her feelings of disgust at being outshone, for she had gone to extra trouble in procuring a costume for this ball. Mabel and Maud were in high spirits, and

## TURKISH DYES DYE EVERYTHING.