

display either personal charms or dress. Again, English women wear much less jewellery than our American cousins, in which most Canadians will agree that they show better taste and better sense.

At the same time, it must be admitted, that with a little more taste many an English girl might enhance her appearance wonderfully. In the important matter of *boots*, I must say, the London ladies still to a great extent keep to the good old fashion of having a boot really large enough for the foot and adapted to the natural mode of progression in human beings. High heeled boots are worn, but not by the majority; with most a sufficiently broad sole and a broad low heel still gives nature a chance. Possibly the climate with its constant rains may contribute its share to aid common sense in this matter; but I am much inclined to believe that the absence of the mania for "pretty girls" in England accounts for the sensible habits of English women in many of these minor matters.

At a concert in New York one sees expensive dresses and an excess of jewellery; at a concert in London about half the people have the score of the music in their hands. Evidently such people go to the concerts for the music and not for display. If the Londoners are not a musical people, they are at least learned in music. On the other hand, the men, I am afraid, have not, in the matter of clothing, and especially of boots, maintained the sensible customs of their ancestors. I entered London with the expectation of seeing every man I met provided with a pair of boots, with soles half-an-inch thick; but nothing of the sort; even their sole and the pointed toe alike showed that customs in London change; and, in this respect, the change is not for the better.

But in the case of the silk hat old

ways prevail, and it is still the badge of respectability in old and young of the male sex. Well, now Sammy do you know, this same custom speaks volumes to me in regard to the English character. Men, by the hat they wear, can so change the appearance of the face, that it seems like maintaining the dignity of the race above either apes or villains to preserve a set of features and an expression, that one's friends may recognize as those of ten years before. May the respectable silk hat ever flourish!

You ask me whether the old fashioned coffee-houses we read of "where Johnson and Goldsmith may have had their chats" still exist. Scarcely, though their modern representatives furnish many a pleasant half-hour to the poor man over his cup of coffee or his steak; but the more fashionable *café* or restaurant is now the resort of the young dandy rather than of the literary man.

If you go to London, Sammy, and wish to get a true insight into the character of the lower classes, do not fail to visit the coffee-houses. This leads me to answer another of your questions, "How do the English eat? Has their mode of disposing of food all that merit we on this side of the water so commonly attribute to it?" This was a problem I endeavoured to study fully. As to the food itself, I was much astonished. My ideas were very erroneous before coming in contact with the facts. An English mechanic takes food regularly four times a day. Bear in mind, he goes to work about eight or nine o'clock in the morning, and continues till seven or eight p.m.; his breakfast is light; about eleven a.m., he takes a lunch of tea and perhaps of bread and butter. At one or two he takes dinner, which consists much more of such vegetables as cabbage, "greens," turnips, potatoes, etc., than I supposed. He gets very little