

## OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

IT is difficult to choose a present for a young girl. She is usually so clever at making things that to give her embroideries and paintings done on silk and plush is merely to reproduce her own handiwork.

Of course, every one is pleased by a Christmas gift, no matter what the gift may be. But in making a selection it is very nice to choose something which has about it the stamp of novelty. Girls like silver things for the dresser or the sewing table. Give a girl a little silver thimble case shaped like a nut, a perfume bottle of silver filagree, a silver cold-cream box, a silver candle-stick or a silver tray for pins.

Give her one of the new style feather fans, with just four very dashing plumes in it. Give her a china silk handkerchief, edged with real lace. Give her a china silk teagown of real chinese pattern, or a silk petticoat, or two pairs of gloves tied together with a ribbon and your "best love."

If you want to delight her buy the finest, largest perfume atomizer in the store. And see that its decorations are in accord with the dressing-table which it is to adorn. Sets of embroidered sachet bags, seven in a set, are enthusiastically welcomed, and so are glass bon-bon cases, silken sweetmeat boxes and Dresden china fruit plates for the "cosy room" table.

If you are very fond of your girl friend leave an order at the florists for roses to be sent to her each Sunday morning during the year. Or, if this is beyond the limits of the purse strings, order the latest magazine to be left at her door for a year. Or send her a season ticket to some amusement which you know she covets.

Let your gifts be individual. Let it be something which seems to say, "To you from me." Think over your girl friend's tastes and make your selection. If she be fond of pretty trifles get her a jewelled hat pin, a gold bow for her hair, with a pearl drop nestling in its depths, a set of "jewelled" hairpins, link buttons, combining your initials and hers, cuff pins for her dress sleeves, a jewelled buckle, gay with brilliants; a breast pin, with an ideal face set on it, or a cunning gold "litter" to hold up her dress skirt.

Girls like pretty red slippers and stockings just to match. Girls like

odd foot-stools, dainty willow chairs, spindle-legged desks, spindle-legged tables, gold candy tongs, silver stamp boxes and manicure sets, of course, and hand glasses, too, as many as you choose to give.

Get the present in time to have it "marked." The pretty calendar you have selected must have the dear girl's initials dashed on it in liquid gold in your own handwriting. The odd little souvenir spoon must have her monogram engraved in the bowl. Her lap-desk should have your initials and hers on one corner of the blotter. The scissors you give her must have "Dorothy" or "Jenny" or "Maude" upon the big blade.

If you give her a purse, be sure to put a lucky penny in its inside pocket, marked with your name. And should a knife be your choice, place a talismanic word of friendship upon its blade.

Give her a girdle, as unique as possible; a peculiar bracelet, a pin, queerly different from any she has seen. Give your girl friend—the prettiest, sweetest thing you can find. But—be sure that it is in accord with her tastes.

The dress of the Scotch women of the last century survived to within living memory. Dr. Gregor, the venerable minister of Pitsligo, thus describes his mother's preparations for church: "On her head she placed a skull cap to keep the hair up, and over that a fine linen cap, lying quite flat, followed by a broad ribbon going round the head and fastened behind. Over all came a band of thin cambric, drawn into a ruching on the top and having a broad, flat border, showing the hair on the edge. Her outer dress was a red cloak with a hood, made of fine wool. Her ordinary errand-going cloak was a duffle or bluish-grey. My father at kirk and fair wore a long coat, with brass buttons, of bluish cloth, and for a working dress, home-made clothes, with a smaller coat of home-spun wool. On all occasions, he wore knee breeches."

Queen Victoria has been studying Hindoostanee and making marvellous progress, according to her admiring native teacher. In fact, he says she far outsteps the Sultan, who is also a pupil of his. The Queen's chief delight now is to address her Indian servants in their native language, and it

need hardly be added that the servants are wise enough to grasp her meaning at once.

The coble in which Grace Darling and her father rescued the survivors of the Forfarshire still exists. It was bought many years ago by the late Colonel Joicey, of Newton Hall, Northumberland, and may yet be seen anchored in an artificial piece of water fronting the Hall. It was one of the most interesting exhibits in the Jubilee Exhibition, held at Newcastle in 1887, where it was eagerly inspected by travelers from far and near. The boat is an ordinary specimen of the "coble" type so familiar on the Northeast coast, yet seen nowhere else—a boat usually ranging from 17 to 20 feet in length, undecked, and having a peculiar sheer from its high stem to its flat-bottomed stern, which causes it to sit very lightly on the water. Though requiring very delicate handling, they are capital sea-boats, and, under a decent pressure of wind, attain an unusual speed. Grace Darling's boat was rowed to the scene of the rescue by Grace and her father, and any one who has seen the long, heavy oars accompanying these craft must have recognized that strength of arm, as well as moral courage, was required to use them in a seaway.

The Empress Josephine was the first to publicly use a pocket handkerchief. Her teeth were bad, and she gracefully concealed this defect by holding a costly handkerchief before her lips. The ladies of the court followed her example, and the custom was thus inaugurated as a fashion.

A professional catcher in Pittsburg wagered ten dollars that he could catch any ball thrown to him, no matter how curved or how swiftly it was sent. The person who bet with him paralyzed him by standing a young woman before him to pitch. She had never handled a ball before, but in three pitches she put so many curves to the ball that he has been almost cross-eyed every since. He failed to be within ten feet of the sphere when it came in his direction.

## YOUNG LADIES TAKE NOTICE.

A young man with a good position, commanding a salary of \$150 per month, would like to make the acquaintance of a young lady; Jewish persuasion preferred. Address J. Y., P. O., box 331.

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