

Fashion Review.

The consciousness of being well dressed perhaps soothes to dreams the women who have adopted the elaborate night dresses, which are now crowding out the simpler modes. Full gathered skirts, yokes finished off with deep berthas, undersleeves, trains and full hanging, fully sleeves have all been adapted to the glorification to the robe de nuit, though



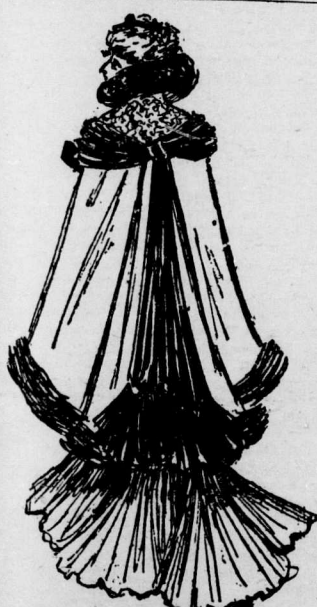
Plain Play Apron.—This simple yoke apron is shown in white lawn. It is gathered below the yoke, and is fitted by side-seams, which are sloped to take away extra fullness at the top and at the same time leave the lower edge sufficiently wide. The neck is finished with a flat collar, the ends of which set apart both front and back. The sleeve has but one seam and is gathered to a wristband. The apron fastens at the back with buttons and buttonholes. The apron can be made in plain or cross-barred muslin, dimity, nainsook, or gingham. The latter is especially suitable for boys.

It is very well understood that a small percentage of even rich women buy and use these garments as night dresses. They serve only too delightfully as elegant lounging gowns, over which in cold weather a flowing sleeveless wadded silk Japanese wrap is cast, allowing the gorgeous lace-hung fronts and sleeves of the cambric gown to be amply and effectively exposed.

For day wear the sacque coat in the three-quarter length has many followers, though some prefer the closely fitting backs, with a loose front, and these coats are trimmed with military froggings and braidings, the revers being faced with either astrakhan or broad tulle. A very handsome coat in the sacque style was made of white satin, almost covered with applique black cloth, outlined with rows of tiny black chenille and beads, the high collar being made of Persian lamb. This coat was worn over a gown of black silk, the skirt portion of which formed a full-shaped ruffle, showing groups of the new upstanding tucks, which have taken the place of cordings. The full ruffle on the base of the skirt is necessary to the best effect of the sacque coat.

A great deal of satin ribbon is now being utilized upon evening gowns, while the new water-proof ribbon is highly favored for millinery purposes, especially upon those hats which are at all liable to be caught out in a shower of rain, for these ribbons really look as well when wet as when dry, which certainly can not be said of any other ribbon.

The prettiest new felt walking hat is trimmed upon both sides with bows of water-proof ribbon, a long, narrow buckle ornamenting the front while a wing or a feather does duty at the back. All millinery ideas run to the wide and flat shapes. Even the pic-



ONE OF THE NEWEST OPERA CLOAKS.

The opera cloak shown is of pale blue panne and heavy cream lace. It is edged all around with a wide band of sable and has a flaring sable collar. The drapery about the shoulders is of black tulle, as are the long cash ends at the back and front.



A Dinner Bodice.—For velvet, velveteen, silk or satin goods, to match the skirt with which it is to be worn. The trimming can be passementerie, pearl, or sequin insertion, and killed edgings of chiffon, or soft silk.

ture hat, which we are so accustomed to admire for its seeming audacity in upstanding bows and waving plumes, has succumbed to the inevitable, and now spreads itself out with a simple, jaunty tilt to one side and a single, plume curling softly over the flat, full



A Princess Chemise.—Longcloth, cambric, nainsook, zephyr, or silk would be used for this garment. Quantity of 36-inch longcloth, 83-8 yards; lace, 8 yards; insertion, 51-2 yards.

crow, around which may be seen a trest of velvet held by a long, narrow buckle in the front.

Flowers are the favorite ornaments for evening wear, but beautiful as these are they must be further enhanced by streamers of double-faced satin ribbons, appearing to tie them together.

RUSSIAN SACRED PICTURES.

They Are Made in the Province of Vladimir by the Peasants.

They are to be seen everywhere—the icons, or sacred pictures of the Russians. They are found standing on a shelf opposite the door of every Russian room, be it shop or private house, market stall or railway booking office. Many also are found in the streets, outside churches or in shrines where passers-by stop and make obeisance.

It is a matter of wonder to the stranger when his drowsy driver stops suddenly in the middle of the road, doffs his hat and mutters a few words of prayer. His devotion to the icons seems to the foreigner as strange as the fact that he devoutly crosses himself before he entrusts himself and his vehicle to a bridge.

A writer explains that icons vary much in material and value, but little in style. The style is always strictly Byzantine, and is copied faithfully from some old picture, in its turn a slavish copy of another.

The story of the manufacture of the icons is interesting. Most of them are made in the Province of Vladimir by peasants who work at them in their cottages. Very much like an up-to-date factory process is the fashioning of these pictures. The work passes from hand to hand. One man makes the boards, another paints the backgrounds, a third puts in the figures, and the picture passes on from fashioner to fashioner until all is complete. It is said that as many as two millions of icons are produced each year.

Some of those hung in the churches are valuable, being, like that of Our Lady of Kazan, in the Cathedral in St. Petersburg, covered with, and indeed almost made of, precious stones.

The retiring pay of a British Field Marshal is £1,300 a year.

About the House.

CHILDREN'S TEETH.

Dentists urge mothers to take more care of their children's teeth during the first years of life. From the time when the little white points come pricking through they should be cleaned carefully at least once a day, for on the care of these first teeth depends to a great extent the condition of the second set. A small soft brush should be applied night and morning, but if only once can be managed, then at night.

A little grated castile soap used two or three times a week is a good thing for children's teeth, as well as for those in older jaws. A pinch of precipitated chalk on the tooth brush with the soap makes a combination that cleans the teeth better than anything else.

The first teeth should be watched closely for cavities, which should be promptly filled with a soft filling, the idea being to retain the temporary set until the jaw has stretched sufficiently to receive the second teeth.

Mothers often excuse a row of blackened stumps in a child's mouth, with the remark that "poor teeth are an inheritance" from one parent to the other. This is true, undoubtedly, but it should be the incentive to redoubled effort on the mother's part. Two or three generations of care will produce sound teeth, and that then will be the heritage passed on. It is worth any sacrifice to secure this double blessing and beauty.

A point often neglected by mothers during the teeth-forming period is to see that the proper food is supplied. A teaspoonful of lime water often to the baby in arms, and later soft-boiled eggs and other bone-producing foods, should be provided.

PUDDINGS.

Almond Pudding.—Stir one tablespoonful of butter into one half cupful of scalded milk; when the butter is melted pour it over three ounces of bread crumbs. Let cool, then add one fourth of a cupful of finely chopped almonds, five drops of extract of bitter almond and one fourth cupful of granulated sugar; stir in two well-beaten eggs. Turn the mixture into buttered cups and bake 20 or 30 minutes in a hot oven.

Banana Pudding.—Cut stale cake into thin slices, and line a dish with them. Cover with bananas sliced thin; sprinkle with sugar and a very little lemon juice. Pour over this a cupful of rather thin boiled custard, make another layer of cake, bananas and custard. Serve cold.

Apple Pudding.—Pare, core and slice enough apples to fill a baking dish. Butter the dish well, put in a layer of apples, sweeten to taste and dot with bits of butter, cover with a layer of cake sliced thin, stale cake will do nicely. Continue the layers until the dish is full. Serve hot or cold and with or without cream.

Orange Pudding.—To one quart of milk add one half of a cupful of sugar, two tablespoonfuls of cornstarch, dissolved in a little cold water, and the well-beaten yolks of two eggs. Grate the rind and press out the juice of three oranges. Scald the milk, add the corn starch, and then the other ingredients. Boil four or five minutes. Beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth, and two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar, and spread over the pudding. Set in a hot oven to brown.

USEFUL HINTS.

Soap should be kept for some time before it is used; it will then go further.

Fish as a food contains much the same proportion of nutriment as meat, only in a much lighter form.

A lump of soda laid upon the drain pipe down which waste water passes will prevent the clogging of the pipe with grease.

Chloride of lime is an infallible preventive of rats. It should be put down their holes and spread about wherever they are likely to appear. Cayenne pepper blown into the cracks where ants congregate will drive them away.

Soap and chalk mixed and rubbed on mildewed spots will remove them. All spices should be kept in tins, and salt should be kept in a dry place.

Baked apples are the most healthful dessert that can be placed upon the table. Good pastry can only be made when the ingredients are absolutely cold. The colder eggs are, the quicker they will froth.

A spoonful of vinegar added to the water in which fish is boiled will make it firm and tender.

A little vinegar should be kept boiling on the stove while onions or cabbage is being cooked; it will prevent the disagreeable odor going through the house.

Grained wood should be washed with cold tea, a small surface only at a time, and rubbed well with a flannel cloth before it becomes dry.

Ammonia painted over woodwork will darken it.

Pickles should never be kept in glazed ware, as the vinegar forms a poisonous compound, with the glassing.

Always well heat a gridiron before broiling meat, fish, bread or anything else.

Whole cloves will more effectually exterminate moths than camphor, tobacco or cedar shavings.

Lemons will keep a long time if covered with cold water.

DOMESTIC RECIPES.

Cherry Pudding.—Put a pint of cherries, canned or fresh into an earthen or enameled dish that can be set on top of the stove. Make a crust of one pint of flour, one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder, a little salt and sufficient milk to make a soft dough. Place over the fruit, cover tightly with another dish and let cook on top of the stove. Do not remove the cover. Cook half an hour, turn bottom side up, and serve with rich sauce. There should be plenty of juice so that the pudding will not burn. This pudding is just as good if baked in the oven, or steamed, and we think half an hour a short period for proper cooking of the crust.

Clove Cake.—One cup molasses, one cup sugar, half cup butter, one cup chopped raisins, two-thirds cup sour milk; one teaspoonful each of soda, cloves and nutmeg; and two of cinnamon; three cups flour. This is a good and cheap fruit cake.

Ribbon Cake.—Cream one cup of butter with two cups of sugar; add four well-beaten eggs, a cup of milk, and three and a half cups of sifted flour, to which one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder has been added. Divide the batter into three parts. To one add a teaspoonful of melted chocolate and flavor with vanilla; to the second add pink fruit coloring and flavor the third with lemon. Bake in layer cake tins, put together with boiled icing, the brown at the bottom, then the pink, lastly the white. Ice the top, coloring it pink.

Pork Cheese.—Cut 2 lbs cold roast pork into fine pieces, allowing quarter pound fat to each pound lean. Season with pepper and salt. Pound in a mortar one dessertspoonful parsley, four sage leaves, one small bunch savory herbs, two blades mace, a little nutmeg, and half teaspoon lemon peel. Mix thoroughly with the meat put into a mold, and pour over it enough strong stock to make it moist. Bake one and one-half hours, and when done, allow to cool. When ready to serve, cut in thin slices and garnish with parsley or cress.

A Novel Fruit Dish.—Cut a pumpkin into a basket with old-fashioned tub handles. Scrape out the pulp and seeds. Polish or varnish the pulp and pile high with oranges, apples, pears and grapes of various colors, letting them hang over the edge of the basket.

Cream Taffy.—One pint granulated or coffee A sugar, half pint water, three tablespoons vinegar or one teaspoon cream tartar and butter the size of a hickory nut. Boil without stirring until mixture threads from a spoon. Pull as soon as the candy can be handled.

A great many women who are otherwise neat do not give the care necessary to keep their toilet belongings in good condition. The brushes and combs are possibly the most neglected in this line, some being used without cleaning for months, and others so carelessly washed as to be but little improved by the process. All hair brushes should be well washed every week, and the work should be carefully done. A little pearline added to half a bowlful of warm rainwater will make a well cleansing sud. The brush and combs should be worked quickly through the water by dipping the bristles in and out, then rinsed in cold water and well shaken. If the brush backs are silver or ivory they should not be wet, but rubbed with a little whitening and well polished. Combs should be washed through the sud and well dried. Thus cared for brushes and combs will be purified and cleansed so as to make them healthful for use and will last much longer than if neglected.

NEW ALASKAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

Vancouver, B. C. has been frequently urged to grant a subsidy to any company that would establish a line of steamers to Alaskan ports, but no action has been taken, and probably the need for it has now passed. It is announced that the Yukon and White Pass Railway has lately purchased two steamers in England to run between Vancouver and Skagway; and the Canadian Pacific Railway will undoubtedly put as many vessels on the run to Skagway, St. Michael, and other ports in Alaska as can be profitably employed.

JUST FOR FUN.

"I might as well tell ye before we go any further," said the witness, who had been getting rather the better of the lawyer, "that ye needn't try to rattle me by askin' fool questions." "No!" retorted the lawyer. "Now, I've raised three boys, an' got two grandsons that's keepin' me trained all the time."

IN MERRY OLD ENGLAND.

INTERESTING NEWS OF JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE.

Record of Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

There are nearly 4,000 miles inland navigation in England and Wales.

News from Pekin is telegraphed to London at a cost of 5s. 9d. per word.

London spends £25 a year on the education of each child in the Board schools.

If all the money in the world were divided equally each person would get about £8.

The volunteer force now numbers 300,000. The last figures gave the enrolled strength at 229,854.

The issue of Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's sermons has now reached the unrivaled number of 2,689, or 544 monthly parts.

In the parish of Runwell, Essex, an apparatus has been lately invented by the rector for ringing the church bells by electricity.

In 1899 there were 103 incumbents of church livings in England who had occupied the same living for 50 years or more, and of these 12 had held their places for 60 years.

The daily consumption of beer in London is said to be 419,000 gallons. In addition to this over 12,000 gallons of spirits and nearly 28,000 bottles of wine are drunk per day.

A cargo of fresh meat from the River Platte, preserved on the passage by a new process, has been landed at Liverpool. It is believed that the experiment has been entirely successful.

A ploughman on a Bucks farm belonging to Lord Cottesloe has turned up an earthen vessel, in which were found 63 ancient British gold coins, each about the size of a five-shilling piece.

The colossal memorial to King Alfred the Great now in course of preparation, which is to be erected at Winchester, will probably be one of the most remarkable pieces of sculpture in the kingdom.

In addition to his accomplishments the late Duke of Argyll was considerable of an artist. Painting was one of his favourite recreations and the rooms at Inverary Castle contain many examples of his brush in oil and watercolour.

There is a society in Yorkshire which has for its object the encouragement of humane treatment and kindness to pit ponies. This is the only organization of its kind in England, and since its formation it has proved highly successful.

Sir Henry Irving will be 63 in February, and no one could blame him, though everyone would regret it, if he retired at an early date from at least the managerial part of one of the most remarkable theatrical careers of the century.

A cat was responsible for the burning of a house, the property of an official of Roscommon Workhouse, on Boxing Day. A burning spark from a fire fell on the cat, which sprang into a bed, setting the bed and subsequently the house in a blaze.

A unique departure has just been made by the benevolent Guardians of Wandsworth. They have decided to allow the old people of both sexes in that institution to have their breakfast in bed, and to retire to bed any time in the day they like.

Even reverence for the dead did not prevent a scene at the funeral of William James North the manager of the Woolpack Hotel, Cripplegate who murdered his wife a few days ago, and then shot himself. As the cortege left the City Mortuary many persons in the huge crowd which had assembled, hissed.

Ernest Young, a native of Fenny Stratford, when committed for trial at Newmarket, for alleged house-breaking, boasted that he had been in every prison in the country, although he is only thirty-seven years of age. It is known that he has served in thirteen different prisons during the past twelve years.

A human mummy of extraordinary interest was recently received at the British Museum. It is said to be of remarkable antiquity, much older than any mummies in the collection either in London or in Paris. It is stated by a high authority that its age cannot be less than 8,000 years, and probably is nearer 10,000.

A huge sturgeon, taken in the North Sea, recently attracted the attention of the public in London for several days. It measured eleven feet in length, with a girth of nearly five feet, and tipped the scale at a little over 500 pounds. But for the fact that the roe is unripe, this interesting specimen would have yielded more than eighty pounds of fine caviare.

WILLING TO PLEASE.

Suitor.—Sir, I have come to ask your daughter in marriage.

Father, tearfully.—Would you take my only child away from me?

Suitor.—Oh, not at all; not at all, my dear sir. I can move right in.

NOT IN A CONDITION.

Didn't your wife sympathize with you when you had the grip?

No; she had it herself.

THE PAARDEBERG GATE.

Memories of the British Columbians Who Died for the Flag in South Africa.

The citizens of Victoria, B.C. have decided upon the form of their memorial to the brave British Columbians who gave their lives for the Empire in South Africa.

The project is to erect on the waterfront of Belleville street, opposite the main entrance of the government buildings, a public water gate or approach from the harbour to be known as the "Paardeberg Gate."

This structure will comprise landing steps about 100 feet long, leading to a platform about 30 feet wide; from thence the level of the roadway is reached by two broad flights with balustrades. The centre of this platform is to be occupied by a bronze bas-relief about 6 feet by 3 feet 6 inches, representing the incident of the death of Sergeant Scott at Paardeberg while leading his comrades to the attack of the Boer positions. This bas-relief set in the wall, fronting the harbour, within pilasters and under a pediment surmounted by the word Paardeberg will afford the central motive to the construction.

The piers at the lower end of the stairs will be surmounted by lions supporting the arms of the city, those of the upper end by ornamental light standards. This plan provides a large amount of masonry work with a very small portion of actual sculpture or bronze casting; yet the prominence given to this latter feature at the head of converging steps and fronting the harbour will give great dignity and point to the event commemorated. It is also proposed to acquire, if possible, a captured Boer cannon which will then occupy an upper platform above the bronze to be approached from Belleville street by three or four broad steps.

The work is to be executed in granite at a cost, including the bronze, estimated at about \$15,000. It is thought that an additional \$10,000 would enable the carrying of the flanking walls on each side as far as the bridge and the foot of Menzies street.

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RUSSIA'S BIG RIVER.

Government Statistics Give Some Interesting Details of Its Traffic.

Regarding the immense amount of traffic carried on Russia's great inland river, the Volga.

Everywhere up the Volga and its hundred tributaries ascend the iron barges of the Caspian Sea oil fleet, while through the canals to St. Petersburg alone pass annually, during the 215 days of free navigation, thousands of steamers and barges bearing millions of tons of freight. Every known means of locomotion is used, from men, who, like oxen, tramp the tow paths, hauling the smaller barges, to powerful tugs that creep along by means of an endless chain laid in the beds of the canals and minor rivers, dragging after them at small pace great caravans of heavy barges. From the greater streams immense craft nearly 400 feet long, 15 feet in depth, carrying 6,000 tons of freight, drift down the Caspian, where they are broken to pieces to be used as firewood on the steamers going up stream.

15,000 MILES OF RIVER.

In all there are 8,000 miles of navigable waterways in the valley of Volga, or, if the streams which float the giant rafts from so large a part of the traffic of the rivers are included, the mileage is increased to nearly 15,000, or as much as that of the valley of the Mississippi.

Fifty thousand rafts are floated down the Volga annually, many of them 100 feet long by 7 feet, and this gives but a faint idea of the real traffic of the river; for in addition there are ten million tons of produce passing up and down the river during the open season. Much of this centres at Nijni Novgorod. To this famous market steamers and barges come from all parts of Russia, bringing goods to be sold at the great annual fair, over \$200,000,000 worth of merchandise changing hands in a few weeks; 30,000 craft, including rafts, are required for this traffic; they come from as far north as Archangel, as far east as the Urals, from Astrakhan in the south, St. Petersburg and Moscow in the west; while great caravans of ships of the desert arrive daily from all parts of Asia.

NOT CLIPPED.

A naturalist says that the squirrel tribe is increasing all over the wooded districts of England, and in the Scottish Lowlands. In some parts of Scotland, notably in the north, the little creature is unknown.

It is not so long ago that a Scotch judge was trying a case which had to do with the escape of a squirrel from its cage, and the question as to whether it had been stolen.

Were its wings clipped? he asked a witness.

But, my lord, interposed the counsel, it is a quadruped.

Quadruped or no quadruped, said his honor, sternly, if its wings had been clipped it could never have escaped.

n-Killer.

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