

ring belonging to her mistress. She had no intention of stealing the ring, but, being missed in her absence, it was believed she had stolen it, and having been found on her finger when she returned, she was given up to the police, when after a short trial, she was pronounced guilty, and sentenced as above mentioned.

"It is a very hard case, indeed," replied her visitor, named Julia Stone, a young woman about her own age. "But, then, it was her own fault, and arose from her love of dress and ornaments."

"How can you be so cruel, Julia! You know that Nellie Johnston did not intend to steal the ring: if she did, she would not have brought it back on her finger. And as to it's being all owing to her love of dress and ornaments, I don't see that that had anything to do with it. Every girl loves dress and ornaments, and Nellie was not worse than others. In fact, Julia, I don't believe there's any harm in the love of dress or the wearing of ornaments."

"There's where you are wrong, Mary. I consider it great harm for a young woman to love dress and ornaments to such an extent as to drive better things from her mind. Such love is born of pride, begets unholy thoughts, and often leads to ruin."

"How you do preach!" exclaimed Mary. "Pray, Julia, should not a young woman be well dressed?"

"Yes, certainly; but there's such a thing as being over-dressed, you know, Mary. Such young women may be seen in the streets every day; and they are not thought much of, I assure you. Why, their heads alone are a wonderful sight in themselves, and must be very expensive, and cause them much time and labor to dress up."

"Well, I declare you talk very foolish, Julia," replied Mary, beginning to get a little angry, because she herself decked her head out very gaudily, and made it