

Queen Draga's Wardrobe.

During the first week of January, the Palace Square at Belgrade was thronged with women, who had assembled to bid on the articles of Queen Draga's wardrobe, then put up at auction. The anxiety of the buyers may be inferred from the fact that, in that land of superstition, possession of any of the murdered Queen's things will be held to bring good luck to the owner.

The wardrobe is not very extensive, for a queen; indeed, it has been stated that few American society girls could get along on less. Nevertheless, to the ordinary reader, the supply does not seem exactly inadequate to the needs even of a royal personage. The lack of jeweled trimmings and priceless laces is, however, quite remarkable, so much so as to clear the poor Queen of the charges of extravagance which were laid at her door.

Among other things offered for sale were her wedding-dress, a soft, white silk gown, trimmed with small bunches of myrtle, which, it is rumored, has been bought by Madame Modjeska, who will use it as a stage-dress in her character of Mary Queen of Scots; twenty-one carriage dresses of woollen stuffs, usually gray; seven carriage dresses of silk, and five of velvet; eighteen silk blouses, and fourteen of balliste, all very pretty. One blouse is formed in the military style, which is coming in vogue again to-day. It is made of white material, with rich gold epaulettes of gold braid, and gold cord ornaments across the front. Queen Draga was very partial to this blouse, and often said she would like to be buried in it. Instead of that, her poor body was thrust by her assassins into a potato sack.

There were also sold seventeen kimonos; sixteen colored silk petticoats, and fourteen white silk ones, also ten of white lawn; eighteen hats; fourteen fans; six parasols, with jewelled handles, and one hundred and twenty pairs of silk stockings, many of which were mended. Of evening wraps, the Queen had only six, the reason of this probably being that she scarcely ever dared to go out at night.

The proceeds of the entire assortment will be used to help in paying off the creditors, who have put in claims of various kinds against the court property.

When You Entertain a Guest.

1. Don't gossip, telling all the "nasty" things you know about people.

2. Don't haul out all the photos of your friends which you own and exhibit them. It is all right to show a picture occasionally, if it comes about in course of conversation, or if there is any especial reason for doing so; but it is vulgar to make a mere exhibition of photos which were given to you just for yourself. The chances are, too, that your guest isn't the least interested in looking at the photos of these people whom she has never seen.

3. Don't exhibit a whole series of memorial cards or poems. They are very gruesome things, and no matter how dear or interesting they may be to you, they are not likely to be so to your visitor. Besides, they invariably give a decidedly gloomy and funereal cast to the conversation.

4. Don't talk about your ailments in detail, or enter into particulars about any sick person.

5. Don't tell about any of your private business affairs, or those of your friends. If you do, you may wish some day that you hadn't.

6. Don't do all the talking yourself.

7. Do be bright and cheerful.

8. Do be kindly.

9. Do be a good listener now and again, and lead your guest to talk. The conversation should be well balanced.

10. Do try to make your guest feel at home.

11. Do talk naturally. Keep affectation at a safe distance.

12. If you are clever, be sure you talk well within the comprehension of your guest. It doesn't matter so much what you talk about, as how

you talk. Let your conversation be bright, kindly, and free from vulgarity, and it is likely to be all right. There are hosts of subjects, too, which may be made topics of conversation without launching into gossip. Your fancywork; your flowers; your garden; your chickens, or cows, or dairying; your trip to town; observations on the sky, or sunsets, or the winter woods; "nice" things about your neighbors; a new book; news from a late paper or magazine; a concert you have been at—these are just a few of the subjects which, in the mind of a well-disposed woman, make matter for cheerful and interesting conversation.

THE HOUSE-MOTHER.

Domestic Economy.

Too much care cannot be taken in the arrangement of the luncheon if a girl or boy is to take the midday meal to school. Paraffine paper should be used to protect each article on the bill-of-fare from its neighbor, while a fresh linen or paper napkin should be furnished daily. The odor of a stale napkin is enough to discourage a fastidious appetite at the start. Pack the things in the order in which they are to be eaten, with the substantials of sandwiches, eggs or cheese at the top. Bananas are also usually best placed on top, as they decay as soon as crushed. Other fruits, wrapped in paper, if juicy, should be laid at the bottom, with the sweets, such as homemade cookies, a turnover, a little individual cake or cup custard in between.

When one comes by bodily fatigue or exhausted by brain labor, no stimulant, so called, serves so well the purpose of refreshment and rest,

both bodily and mentally, as milk. When heated as hot as one can readily take it, it may be sipped slowly from a tumbler, and as it is easily digested one feels very soon its beneficial effects. Few persons realize the stimulating qualities of this simple beverage.

Mourning wash goods are a little difficult to starch nicely. Boil one quart of clean wheat bran in three gallons of water for one hour. While still warm, strain through a cheese-cloth, and wash the black muslin or linen in it. Use neither soap nor starch. Press while damp.

If the hands and feet perspire freely, a jar of powdered alum is a useful toilet adjunct. Powdered alum is not a good thing to use every day, but dusted on the inside of the hands occasionally, after washing, or over the sole of the foot and between the toes, it will dry the surface of the skin a little; or a little of the powder may be added to the water in which the hands were washed. Once in a while one sees an alum bath recommended to take off that frightful shiny look from the face. But alum is so drying, it can hardly be used without producing or accentuating wrinkles.—[Mass. Plowman.]

Rubinstein was very fond of a joke. One day when he was giving a piano-forte recital at St. James' Hall, he was accosted in a passage of the building by a lady, who said she was too poor to buy a ticket for the performance. She, therefore, begged the great musician to give her one. "Madam," replied Rubinstein, "the fact is that to-night I have but one seat in the house at my disposal; but if you do not mind occupying it, it is entirely at your service." The applicant was delighted. "I am very much obliged," she said, "may I ask where the seat is?" "At the piano," replied Rubinstein, with his best bow.



"An Olden-time Wedding Festivity."