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Robert had always looked forward |

Robert had always looked forward to this adventurous calling, and he adopted it with joy. Yet it is perilous work which is accomplished beneath the waves. Clothed in his impermeable costume, his head contined in a thick helmet, his feet and chest covered with sheets of lead, the diver descends slowly to the bottom of the sea. Above him, in a frail boat, two men keep constantly at work at the air-pump which conveys to him the breath of life. One instant of negligence on their part, one false move, and he is lost. When he touches the wet ground, where with difficily he can find a footing, his head suzzes, his ears bleed. He looks thre if the glass panel of, his helmet, and he thinks with horror that a shock might break this glass; and that this is death. A cord fastened to his wrist serves him as Ariadne's clue, and when the doubtful light which penetrates to these gloomy solitudes has allowed him to find his way, he must work as if he were breathing the pure air, as if he were lighted by the joyous sun.

The most wretched laborers in the

they hid themselves benind a row of willow trees which stood by the way-side. Tom would stop the horse, and Robert and Diego would look for them among the trees, until suddenly childish laughs would burst out; they were there. Then they would jump out and kiss their wives, and the two joyous couples would walk together to the village, whilst the father followed slowly behind them. And then there was the white cloth covering the supper-table, and the clear fire burning in the huge chimney, and the loving conversation indulged in after the meal, whilst Thomas Disney smoked his pipe and looked with tender eyes at his children. For Robert, the whole universe was contained in this blessed cottage. He had no past history; he had no fear for the future, and he would have liked always to live thus. But God had marked out his life, and this heavy existence lasted but God had marked out and this happy existence lasted but

and this happy existence lasted but a short time.

One day at Dover the father received a letter from London, a thing which rarely happened to him. In the evening he told his sons that they would all go back to Whittstable the next day, and during the journey he was evidently very thoughtful. This unexpected arrival caused great joy at the cottage, and when Tom found kimself at home again his two daughters' delight brought back his habitual cheerfulness. After supper, when he was seated before the cup of tea prepared by Mary, and poured out by Ellen, the old sailor could no longer remain silent.

"My children," said he, "I have to talk to you about a matter of

seated before the cup of tea prepared by Mary, and poured out by Ellen, the old sailor could no longer remain silent.

"My chidren," said he, "I have to talk to you about a matter of very great importance. I have n grand plan, and this plan interests you as much as it does me. This is what it is. You know that old Tom Disney is known through the whole of England, and that he is always applied to about difficult jobs. Very well. Here is a letter from a director of a maritime insurance company with whom I have already done some business. He proposes some more to me, but it will bear some reflection. A ship belenging to the East India Company, the Sutlel, has been wrecked in the Mediterranean, on the coast of France. There is not much hope of making anything of it, for it rests on, a soft bottom, and it is supposed to have sunk deeply into the sand. The insurance scopie thought I might recover part of their losses for them, and they are willing to hand over to me the ship and cargo, at my own risk and peril. They ask four thousand guineas. It is about half of wifat I possess. The Sutlej is laden with cottor; but it contains also a sum of one hundred thousand pounds sterling, in bars of gold. If we succeed, it means weath for you and your children. If we fail, it means, perhaps, ruin. And this is why I wish to consult you."

At this unexpected statement Robert felt more astonishment than emotion. Business, and especially business having to do with money, was so strange to him that he never gave it a thought. He did not know what to reply, and he thought that he read in Ellen's eyes that she shared his indifference.

As for Mary, she did not appear even to have comprehended, and she remained absorbed in the contemplation of her husband, who, for his part, had listened to Disney with evident attention and agitation.

Diego took upon himself to answer for ail. He said that the job was too good to think of refusing it, and that they must go to London and make further enquiries. An enthusiasm pervaded his words which much surprised Kobert, for Diego had always evinced very little liking for submarine expeditions. It was agreed that he should accompany Disney to London, and they started the next day.

sence on their part, one failse move and here an inde a footing, his head suzze, his ears bleed. He looks threath the fails panel of, his helmet, and he thinks with horror that a stock of gardinary that the thinks with horror that a stock of gardinary that the thinks with horror that a stock of gardinary that the thinks with horror that a stock of gardinary that the control of the thinks with horror that a stock of gardinary that the control of the thinks with horror that a stock of gardinary that the control of the control o a cheque on the bank where he kept his account, just like a large merchant.

The die was cast, and all the hopes of the peaceful inhabitants of the village rested thenceforward at the bottom of the Mediterranean, within the sides of a vessel torn asunder by the tempest. They must succeed at any price, Disney declared that they should all go with him, and it was settled that they should go and take up their abode together on the coast of Provence. The old sailor, without losing an instant, set about choosing a staff of divers selected from the best in Dover. He had improved apparatus manufactured in London, he provided himself with letters of recommendation to the French authorities, and the little army started on its journey as well equipped as possible. One month afterwards it had taken up its quarters on the coast of Provence, between Toulon and Antibes.

Cape Camarat, near which the Stitel had foundered, was entirely deserted. The lighthouse, which was built there later, did not exist at that time, and they had to go far without finding a house. After a considerable search, however, they discovered, three miles from the beach, on the slope of a hill covered with magnificent pine trees, a large house, very rustically built and very simply furnished. It was what the country folks call a bastide, with whitewashed wfills, a roof of red tiles and green shutters. There was a large garden, or rather an orchard, full of fruit trees and flowers. The owner, who was a merchant of Toulon, let them have it at a very moderate were and Klein and Marx were. owner, who was a merchant of Tou lon, let them have it at a very mod erate rent, and Ellen and Mary wer soon in possession of their new do

lon, let them have it at a very moderate rent, and Ellen and Mary were soon in possession of their new domain.

The little colony of workmen took up its quarters in tents which Disney had erected on the beach, and, a week after, the work had already commenced. This southern climate produced a very ligely impression on Robert. He had always lived beneath the cloudy skies of England, and the radiant sum of Provence appeared to him like some new planet. The immense blue sheet of the Mediterranean was so unlike the muddy waters of the Thames that he thought he was looking upon the sea for the first time. Ellen, and even the "tranquil Mary, shared Robert's sensations: but Disney and Diego, familiarized long ago with hot climates, were much less occupied with these beautiful seenes than with the salvage works. The little colony soon settled down. Ellen superintended so cleverly the arrangements of the housework. The little colony soon settled may be a superintended to the house work, and everything soon wore that look of cleanliness and careful looking after by which an English Interior is recognized in any country.

The drawing and dining-rooms were on the ground floor. Each of the married couples had a pretty bedroom on the first and only floor, and Disney took possession of a turret at the corner of the building, which was reached by an exterior staircase. The old sailor preferred this elevated post, because from his window, with the aid of a pair of glasses, he could distinguish his workmen perfectly. The two maids occupied a separate building, which had probably been used as a barn.

From the very first their life was regulated as on a man-of-war. The

MILLINERY NOTES.

and Ruchings. The Tall and rather stiff feathers are now a common feature of millinery, and flowers are ubiquitous. Small blossoms cover the wide brims of hats and the small crowns of bonnets, especially violets, which have returned to popularity in full force and are as much worn this winter as they were last.

last. Close fitting felt hats, something on the English deer stalker style, are in vogue for hard wear and bad weather service. They are of various shades and have the brim turned up at the sides. A band of ribbon or velvet and quills compose the

trimming.
Felt sailor shaped hats are this season ornamented with trimmings or a band of cream or white kid embroidered in colored

slik and gold thread.

Large bows of flowered ribbon and ruchings of chiffon are fashionable adornments



for hats, and a novelty in hat shapes is made entirely of a sort of braid consisting

of interwoven strips of shot silk and

threads of chenille.

White felt hats are worn for day dress occasions, such as at homes, receptions and matinees. They are often trimmed with white velvet, with the addition of fowers and a bit of fur. Sometimes a white velvet muff, trimmed to match, accompanies the hat.

Violets are seen on bonnets, bats, gowns and fur garments and form independent collars and ruches by themselves. They are of many shades of mauve and purple and of various sizes. White and yellow violets are also used, but in far less quantity.

violets are also used, but in far less quantity.

Wing shaped hat and bonnet ornaments and trimming, extending at the sides, are still the rule, although the fashion is not especially becoming or even pretty in itself.

Very long gloves are worn for evening ogcasions, and alt oplors from black to white are admissible, according to the costume they accompany. Shoes and slippers of pale tan suede are again in vogue for balls and full dress occasions.

An illustration is given of a jacket of

balls and full dress occasions.

An illustration is given of a jacket of mastic cloth. It is close fitting and double breasted, fastening, with two rows of pearl buttons. The tailor collar is extended in two points, which button down on the body of the jacket under the revers. Pockets are let in at the dart seams. The sleeves, which are in one plece, are finished at the wrist by a stitched band with a button. The hat is of black felt, trimmed with black satin ribbon and ostrich plumes.

JUDIC CHOLLET.

VARIOUS NOTES.

Sloping Shoulder Effects.

Persons troubled with a rush of blood to the head or with a flushed complexion should never bathe the face in cold water. The gloves most worn just now are very pale pearl gray or pure white.

The most careful observers of correctness in dress do not permit a young girl to wear jewels, with the exception of one ring on the right hand and some sort of small locket or pendant for evening occasions.

The falling or sloping shoulder effect is particularly pretty in evening gowns when the wearer is well rounded, but it is also



NOVEL HAT.

seen in day costumes, the appearance being obtained by means of a close epaulet flating the top of the arm. The epaulet may be out in a point, the fullness of the sleeve spreading out below it.

Fur is so much employed for trimming just now that it behooves every woman to get out whatever old pleces she has laid by and see if she cannot centrive to put them to some use. If there are a few wide that in good condition, they may be cut lengthwise into narrow ones and thus made to trim an entire costume, but it is best to let a furrier do the cutting, as he has the proper tools and can do it without injuring the pile of the fur. Damiged portions may be cut out, as plecing does not show in fur proyided the pile is made to run in the same direction. Narrow bands are more worn than wide ones, although entire collars and revers are seen.

Marie Antoinette fichus are seen ip net, lace and chiffon and in all colors. There are also charming short boas, made of plaited chiffon, flowers and ribbon, which add greatly to the becomingness of a pretty costume. For most purposes black, with colored flowers, with perhaps the addition of a little cream lace, will be found satisfactory.

An illustration is given of a novel hat

factory.

An illustration is given of a novel hat of mauve velvet. The brim is curiously out and curved and is edged with a jet band. In the middle of the front opening is a large paste buckle; fastening the stems of a group of phenix g. en feathers. Un-der the brim on each sile is an immense chou of phenix green velvot. Ends of vel-vet fall upon the hair on each side behind.

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