



M. Goschen, the new British Chancellor of the Exchequer, belongs to a wealthy family of bankers and from his long Parliamentary experience, is admitted to be one of the foremost of living British Statesmen. Although a staunch liberal, he has not hesitated to take office under the Salisbury government, with the idea of consolidating the union sentiment as against Mr. Gladstone's scheme of Home Rule. While he remains in the cabinet, there can be no material change in the Irish question.

TOBOGGANING

TOBOG OR NOT TOBOG—SHAKESPEARE ON ICE.

Tobog, or not tobog: that is the question: Whether 'tis wiser in a man to shuffle O'er slides and slip ups of uncleaned side-walks, Or to take sled against a hill of ice, sir, And by a scoot-down, get there! To slide; to slip; To soar, and by that slip, to reach the end. The wind-up and the thousand bruising bumps That flesh is prone to—'tis a combustion Devoutly to be dished! To slide; to slip; To slip! Perchance to flop: aye, there's the rub: For in that slip down hill what scrapes may come: When we have scratched up all this mortal hide, And skinned our paws; there's the respect That makes calamity of that long slide; For who would bear the cuts and smart of coats; The steerer's wrong, the starter's stupidity, The pangs of o'erturned loads, the crushed up sleigh, The twenty-five cents out, and the smart That patient merit bears when sweet girls snicker. When he himself might his quietus take Off a toboggan! Who would ride a sled To scoot and gasp under a horse blanket, But that the dread of not being fashionable— That awful *bete noir*, from whose frown No tobogganer returns—master's the hill, And make us rather take the ills we fear, Than fly in haste from the toboggan slide!



MUCH MISPLACED JOCLARITY  
 SMART BOY.—Mr. Pleeceman, please, you've got something sticking on to the back of yer coat.  
 POLICEMAN (OFF HIS GUARD).—What is it?  
 SMART BOY (DERISIVELY).—The buttons Yah!

AN ODE TO SNOW.

In the Antique Manner of T. Hood.

Hail, snow!  
 Fair harbinger of joys to come:  
 The ball and merry rout—  
 (Great Scot! take care—my toe!  
 I've got the gout! get out!)—  
 White snow, but newly from  
 The sky—  
 (Look out, dear, mind your eye  
 Or down you'll go!)—  
 Soft snow,  
 How dextly coverest thou each nook;  
 The ice-bound brook,  
 The vale and hill—  
 (Good Lord! I've got a chill!)  
 The stately palace and the lowly grave—  
 (What! fifty cents for clearing off the pave!)  
 Dear snow;  
 The children's friend,  
 I love to see them gaily slide  
 Adown the mountain-side,  
 Row after row—  
 (Look out! You'll go end over end!  
 Aha! I told you so!  
 Smooth snow;  
 Earth's overcoat; its wrap  
 When it doth take a nap  
 Till spring returns once more—  
 (Say you! Please shut that door!)  
 The seasons come and go,  
 Oh, snow,  
 And thou return'st also,  
 Lying on Winter's breast—  
 (This has struck my chest)—  
 So pure, white, soft and still,  
 How could man dream that ill  
 Abides with thee—more ache and pain  
 Than doth the gentle rain  
 Bring in its train.  
 And yet I love to see thee, snow,  
 Whilst gazing at thee from indoors (just so!)  
 But now that I can't go  
 To Simpson's rout to-night,  
 Where terrapin awaits me—cursed spite—  
 Because of the eand good?  
 I hate thee, cursed snow  
 "Avaunt and quit my sight!"  
 Clear out!

CHAS. H. GIBSON.

COMFORT AND STYLE TOO.

So long as it is the fashion for ladies to wear bustles of the pronounced amplitude now favored by so many of the fair sex, we do not see why the fact may not be taken advantage of to introduce an invention calculated to make it convenient for them frequently to rest from the fatigue of long standing or walking. Such, at least, we pre-



COMBINED STOOL AND BUSTLE.

sume to be the idea of the inventor of the device shown in the accompanying illustration, for which a patent has recently been issued. The transformation the style has effected in the appearance of a lady, properly fitted out in walking costume, is something really wonderful, and we are not surprised, therefore, that several other inventors have rushed into the same field, with devices which would not otherwise have been thought out.

When is a man entering a pawnbroker's like a hermit? When he contemplates alone (a loan).

THE FASHIONS.



THE FASHIONS.—The first (1) is Sicilian of velvet and jet passementerie before and behind. Treaded apron and floriated skirts. The second (2) is of black velvet, with lace and jet ornaments. The apron is bias. Floriated plastron and flowing velvet train.



(1) and (2) under skirt of black silk, adorned below with a lace flowing border. Apron in jet fringed below. Tunic of lace opened on the apron, mounted behind and forming in front two large folds in triple hollows. Jet ornaments are set on the two front sides and at the back. The corsage is of lace and the sleeves are broad, with cuffs of jet embroidery. The collar is also embroidered in jet.  
 (3) This costume is essentially woollen. The skirt is red and the polonaise is draped behind, falling in broad plaits on the side.