



FIG. 30.—No. 4607—LADIES' TEA GOWN. PRICE 35 CENTS.

This design cuts from 32 to 40 inches, bust measure, and the quantity of material required for each size of 21-inch goods, 14 yards, or of 42-inch, 7 yards. If made of materials illustrated, $5\frac{3}{4}$ yards of 42-inch material, 3 yards of 24-inch silk, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ yards of ribbon will be required for each size.

Necessities of a Modest Wardrobe.

The question has arisen as to what constitutes the smallest array of clothes necessary for the ordinary woman in moderate circumstances. In writing of this, I can only hope to strike a "happy medium," as no two may be situated exactly alike, and much depends upon the home being in a city or small town, whether the person is fond of social life or a recluse, remains at home or is in business, as entirely different clothes are worn under these circumstances. I have taken an average of \$200 for the income, which includes clothes and pin money, but not board. This may be a high average, but not for a city-bred woman in moderate circumstances. I have the pleasure of knowing a young lady in a far western town, who, on \$150 a year, dresses well at all times, is well supplied with reading matter, etc., and saves \$25 a year; but she is a perfect genius in making over gowns and shows everything to the best advantage, being stylish in appearance, which is not given many of us, unfortunately, for it covers a multitude of defects.

The items of gloves, shoes, underwear and lingerie count up faster than the dresses themselves, and everyone ought to save something out of the yearly income, be it \$200 or \$2000. If even \$10 is laid away how convenient it will come in next year when you may wish to make a short visit, and need extra car-fare or pocket-money, or when a winter cloak must be had, which eats so quickly into \$20. Unless very hard on shoes, two pair will last a year—mine last eight months, walking in them three miles a day—and one pair of low ties for the house; shoes, \$4 per pair; ties, \$2 three pair of gloves, \$3.00; two hats, \$3.00 and \$4.00; six new hose, \$3.00; six handkerchiefs, \$1.50 lingerie, in the shape of collars, folds or ribbons for the neck and sleeves, and probably a lace jabot or lace ruffles for a dressy home gown, \$5.00; mohair petticoat, \$1.50; corsets, \$1.50; one light and one heavy flannel skirt, \$3.00; four new sets of underwear,

'Tis Time We Two Were Maying.

Oh, let us go a-Maying;
The warm south wind is blowing, and the wood
is fresh and green,
And whispering leaves are saying
We are losing all by staying,
When sweet the grass is growing, and the cow-
slips in between.

'Tis time that we were Maying:
The birds will sing the sweeter when they know
that there are two
In forest pathways straying
Who can tell what they are saying,—
And cloud-ships sail the fleetly through the
tender melting blue.

'Tis time we two were Maying:
For summer days are flying and grim Winter
comes apace,
And pleasure scorns delaying
Nor will tarry for our praying:
Then why should we be sighing, when the days
are full of grace!

'Tis joy to go a-Maying,
When hawthorn boughs are filling with sweet
odors field and grove,
And blushes are betraying—
What the lips dare not in saying—
And two young hearts are thrilling to the magic
touch of love!

How shall we go a-Maying,
When Winter winds are blowing, and the sky
are no more fair?
With love forever staying,
We shall always go a-Maying.
And find sweet flowers growing 'e'en when fields
are bleak and bare.

ZITELLA COCKE.

A Lost Paradise.

Green fields and young faces,
Sunshine and flowers—
Ah, in the far-off fairy places,
Once they were ours!

Now, when crows and crows' feet, thicken,
Brown locks are gray,
Do the hedgerows somewhere quicken,
Flushing with May?

Are the buttercups as golden?
Do the harebells chime,
In those meadows of the olden
Blessed time?

Look, how cold that sky above us!
Ah me! to walk
Where the daisies know and love us,
And the sparrows talk!

Hush! the wistful children heed us,
Pausing in their play!
Darlings, take our hands and lead us—
You know the way.

FREDERICK LANGBRIDGE.

Ponsby (to tailor)—"I should think you'd be tired standing up all day cutting out garments." Tailor—"I don't mind that. What makes me tired is to be stood up for six months for the payment of a suit of clothes."

The question of the future of the overhead wire system depends so much on the possibility of perfect insulating that the discovery of a material possessing high insulating properties will be one of the utmost value. To the large variety of insulating compounds already in existence has been added one which consists of a mixture of carbolic acid shellac. The two substances are combined by heating carbolic acid until it boils slowly, and then adding the shellac, or other insulating materials, such as vegetable drying oils, asphalt, rosin, &c. The product is a semi-plastic mass, remarkably tough and tenacious, which is but little sensitive to extreme changes of temperature, and presents a hard smooth surface. The results obtained with this new compound are said to be excellent.



Woolen, cotton, and India silk fabrics are suitably made after the style of bodice shown here, which may have accessories of velvet or embroidery, according to the material of the gown. The lining is of the usual shape, and the outer material has but four seams, with shirrings at the waist-line, front and back, to fit it to the figure, and is shirred to the yoke so as to form an erect ruffle. The sleeves are of the leg-o'-mutton style, with deep velvet cuffs to match the yoke, collar, and shaped belt tied in the back. Pattern 4632, price 25 cents. The skirt is trimmed with rows of velvet ribbon, and has a full gathered back, with the front arranged in three gathered flounces overlapping each other. The design may be used for any ordinary material. Pattern 4631, price 30 cents.

made at home, \$10; one wrap each year, alternating for the seasons, \$10. An umbrella one year, and a parasol or waterproof the next, as some things give out every year, \$2.50.

We have now used up \$48, and will allow \$12 for reading matter, one's favorite journal, a weekly, a few good books gradually added, and stationery. To this \$60 add \$15 saved and \$25 to remain for pocket money during the year, which in the city would easily go for car-fare, an occasional matinee, etc. Now we have \$100 for actually gowns, which we suppose are made by the wearer, who has a dressmaker only for a couple of days each season for fitting basques, this costing her, say \$6.00 a year. In buying your gowns do not select striking colors or designs, or extreme novelties, as they must be made over for the second year, when \$25 should be saved out of the income. For a spring gown, select a striped cheviot at \$1.00, which will cost about \$12.00. Then have a mohair at the same price, for summer street wear, which will be somewhat more elaborately trimmed and cost \$14.00. Two pretty Parkhill gingham, at 15 cents, will cost \$4.00 with embroidery for the collars and cuffs. Six yards of hemstitched nainsook will cost \$6.00, and be a delightfully dainty attire for warm summer evenings.

A neat silk gown, at \$1.50 a yard, may be contrived out of \$30.00, and a blouse of striped flannel to wear with half-worn skirts, out of \$1.75. A tea-gown or fancy wrapper is a boon to one when tired, and can be prettily contrived out of the 18-cent challie, and a few yards of ribbon, costing in all about \$3.25. In the fall have a woolen suit of combination goods, cashmere or black Henrietta, costing \$12.00, and with the remaining \$11.00 invest in a light veiling trimmed with velvet-ribbon, which can be worn at any season for an evening gown to change with the silk, and in place of the silk, a gown of black net lined with satin Duchesse might be had, and worn for even-

ing or visiting. As said before, much depends upon the position in life and the place of living; but a street dress for fall and winter and a second one for spring and summer, a demi-toilette before the same seasons, a visiting and church dress, a blouse, wrapper and cool house dresses in summer seem to be absolutely indispensable. I am an advocate of buying good materials when few changes and long wearing are to be considered. Dark brown, blue and gray are good shades not to tire of; and black now is very stylish and always looks well, as it can be brightened up to become any complexion.

The Engagement Bracelet.

Speaking of jewelry, the latest fad in engagement bracelets is a band of dead gold from which dangle two translucent moonstone hearts. This is a relic of the fashion of a few years since, when a lover fettered his sweetheart with a bracelet fastened with a padlock, to which he kept the key. Many girls allowed themselves to be thus manacled by love and were proud of their bondage. It wasn't so charming if there came a rupture. I knew one girl who spent an entire afternoon trying to release her wrist from its golden fetters. She finally broke it with a shoe buttoner. Before marriage the lover generally wears the key upon his watch chain; afterwards he finds it a nuisance and restores it to his fair prisoner and she secures her bauble herself. But this fashion became so common that it is no longer in vogue save among people who straggle along at the tail of the procession. There was a time when only diamonds were permissible for engagement rings, but now sapphires and rubies are both allowable. Three rings indeed are often given now, each one set with different gems, and worn one above the other. It is also correct for the girl to give her betrothed a ring, an intaglio being very good form for this purpose.