

## NOVEMBER'S DULL DAYS.

NEW WEIRD AND FANCY TO MAKE  
FAIR THE FAIR SEX.

Gowns with the bloom of hills and sea-  
shore landscapes as a feature—some showing  
faded party gowns and some from a  
faded party gown.

Nowadays it is hard to say which is the  
more gorgeous and glaring—the shop win-  
dows or the women they lure inside. The  
windows team with heavy shaggy stuffs for  
street wear—camel's hair, soft as velvet,  
sheeny as silk, frizzes and chevrons with  
the bloom of Scotch hills and heathery  
overlying their grounds of brown or gray  
or olive. They are new—what is better,  
they are so much so that you recognize  
them at once as the textile expression of a  
new and beautiful thought. There is won-  
derful individuality in the ground colors.  
The greys are cold or warm or demure or  
freakish, the browns run the gamut bet-  
wixt the sorrowful dead leaf tint and the  
peaky joyousness of gold color, as the  
angry reds of burnt orange. Many are  
overlaid with splashes and blotches either  
contrasting or harmonizing, with the  
ground. Others show rings, stripes or  
broad uneven patches of deep blue or  
deeper red.

Among the most striking was the blue  
cheviot bound with tawny orange, lately  
chosen for a bride's gown—any gown  
A vest of dull blue silk was let into the

several narrow ones, or else a row of pas-  
sion-fruit.

But each passer-by nobody ever  
quite saw before. Fancy, wide, golden  
meets down with seed pearls, with pale  
emerald nail-heads, or those that flash out  
to you the lustre of aqua-marina. Imagine it  
catching down draperies of creamy-white  
crêpe de chine, and you will get some idea



NEW DESIGNS IN MILLINERY.

of the gown worn at a party at a country  
house, when its blonde owner set several  
hearts a-tremble. For she bound her  
golden hair with ropes of real pearls,  
and bewrapped her milk-white throat with  
the same perfect jewels. Even her tiny  
slippers—she is a second Cinderella—were  
powdered with the white drops that might  
be fairy-tears made immortal. Another  
gem, which upon the same occasion en-  
hanced the charms of her brunette dearest  
foe, is of blue-green silver spangled tulle  
made with the suspicion of a fan train over  
blue green shot silk. At foot the skirt has  
an enormously full tulle ruche with a row  
of stemless pink roses through the center.  
The same trimming, but smaller, outlined  
the low neck. On either shoulder there  
was a big real-lace butterfly, and a third  
hovered over the roses a-bloom in beauty's  
hair. Another gown was of yellow silk  
hand-wrought, with pink orchids with yel-  
low jeweled centers. ELLEN OSBORN.

## WOMEN'S WAISTS.

What They Should Measure—The Famous  
Venus de Medici.

While a 19 or 20-inch waist is a deform-  
ity in an adult woman, it may justly be  
doubted whether the 26-inch waist of the  
Venus de Medici is not somewhat too large  
to be in proportion with the figure of the  
average American woman. It is charac-  
teristic of women of the highest types of  
the Indo-European races to have wide hips  
and narrow waists. In other races the  
hips are narrower and the waists larger.

The American woman appears, in conse-  
quence of her large hip measurement, to  
have a smaller waist than she actually has.  
To the unskilled masculine eye a girl with  
a waist of 22 or 22½ inches may seem to  
have a wasplike figure, when in reality her  
measurement is very nearly what it should  
be to satisfy the critical judgment of an  
artist or her family physician.

The Venus de Medici is five feet five  
inches in height, 26 inches about the waist,  
34 about the bust, and 44 about the hips.  
The women employed as "cloak models"  
by most of the great dry goods establish-  
ments in New York city are about of the  
same height. The measurements required  
of a "model" five feet five inches in height  
in one establishment are the following:

"Waist, 23½ to 24 inches; bust, 34 to  
35; hips, 45 to 47; base of skull to waist,  
16; biceps, 11½ to 12."

A prominent physician recently gave the  
following as the correct measurements for  
a well formed, well developed and healthy  
woman of 5 feet 5 inches:

"Waist, 24 inches; bust 33½ to 34½;  
biceps, 12 to 13; wrist, 5½ to 5¾; hips,  
44 to 46; calf, 13 to 14; and ankle 7 to  
7½."

The doctor's "model woman" has smaller  
hips and a smaller bust and about the same  
waist as the "cloak model."

## EXPECTING TOO MUCH.

Advice to Hardworking Housekeepers:  
Don't Worry; Be Charitable.

A housekeeper's duties are many and  
exhausting, and, under the best of cir-  
cumstances, many times trying. This is es-  
pecially so of the nervous, delicate woman.  
While there are essential duties to be per-  
formed in every household, a great deal of  
trouble arises from expecting too much  
from ourselves and others. A woman who  
wishes to make her home a happy haven of  
rest for husband and children must have  
sympathy and charity for the shortcomings  
of every member of the household.

One may be untidy—a very trying fault  
one must admit—another indolent, while a  
third has an irritable temper. But is it  
any use to fret over these daily trials? Far  
better throw the mantle of charity over  
faults that cannot be remedied, and learn  
not to expect too much. While extending  
leniency to others it is well to do the same  
toward ourselves, and not exhaust body  
and mind in endeavoring to do the work of  
two or three persons. How many women  
lose all the pleasure of home life in this  
never ending effort!

"What is your idea of a perfect house-  
keeper?" we once asked an aged friend  
whose reputation as such was well known.  
"The woman who bears in mind that  
while it is necessary that the house be clean  
and the table well served, it is quite as  
necessary that she should keep her own  
heart and mind in order, thus being able  
to carry sunshine and brightness always  
with her through all the trials and annoy-  
ances of life. Such a woman will never  
fail to keep her house in order and make  
her family happy."

It is then a lesson well worth studying,  
that of not expecting too much of ourselves  
or others.—Home Companion.

## NEXT TO THE BIBLE!

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## "ASTRA" TALKS WITH GIRLS.

(Correspondents seeking information in this de-  
partment should address their queries to "Astra,"  
Progress, St. John.)

HILKE, St. John.—I am very sorry to  
hear that Geoffrey has gone. I saw him a  
little while ago, and he seemed in the best  
of health and spirits, but I don't know why  
you should expect to find him in Moncton.  
Perhaps you think everything that is best,  
and brightest is to be found in that stirring  
town. And so you think the pup and the  
cat and the garden are all castles in Spain?  
Well, I only wish some of my castles in the  
sunny south were as real. At this very  
moment the pup is tearing up and down  
the street in front of the sanctum, with a  
very old, and sudden, child's boot in his  
mouth, which he excavated a few minutes  
ago, from a dust heap in a neighbor's back  
yard. He is determined to bring it in, and  
store it away in the parlor for future use,  
but he can't get under the gate without  
dropping it, so he is waiting till someone  
opens the gate, and lets him in. The cat is  
curled up in my lap and the garden is  
scarcely a garden at all now, it is so dilap-  
idated. So now they are accounted for.  
I am sorry to dash down your hopes about  
Geoffrey, but you must give up all thought  
of him, unless he gets a divorce from me.  
For I assure you he is a very real person  
indeed. And so you thought husband and  
wife were one, did you? Two bodies with  
but one soul? I don't think if you are very  
often I am a Woman. How often must  
I assure the public of that fact? And I  
have not got brown eyes, or a perfect  
mouth, nor any of the charms Geoffrey has,  
so I cannot claim the kiss—happy thought  
—I'll give it to Geoff! I am thankful to  
say that I have only one soul, and I have  
so much trouble in looking after it that if  
I had another to take care of I should go  
out of my mind.

ROSEBUD, St. John.—I hope it did not  
require so very much courage. (1) Six-  
teen is very young, indeed, but it is, as you  
say, they are so very fond of each other,  
perhaps it is as well that they should be  
engaged. (2) Certainly not, if they are  
engaged or related, but unless they  
are it would be better not  
to do so. If they were very old  
and dear friends, it might make a differ-  
ence. (3) Your writing is very pretty and  
very odd. (4) Perhaps if you saw me you  
might be disappointed. (5) The hair is a  
pretty shade of rather light brown. I am  
afraid Geoffrey will be getting utterly un-  
manageable soon if he gets so much atten-  
tion from the girls, but I will give him your  
love.

We Two, St. John.—(1) Of course I  
don't know what kind of candy your "own"  
is, and so I may possibly give you the same  
recipe but here are a few of mine. For  
chocolate caramels which are good, though  
I do say it, take one pound of brown  
sugar, one cup of molasses, one and a half  
cups of moist, unweetened chocolate,  
grated, one cup of milk, and a quarter of a  
pound of butter. Put down butter, sugar,  
molasses and milk, first in a preserving  
kettle, add the chocolate, and boil till as  
thick as very thick porridge, till you can  
scarcely stir it, in fact, being very care-  
ful not to let it burn. Pour on slightly  
greased tins, and mark in squares  
when it is cooling. For coconut cream  
take three cups of white sugar, three  
fourths of a cup of water, three fourths of  
a teaspoonful of cream of tartar, and boil  
for precisely ten minutes. Add one cup  
of grated or shredded coconut, beat un-  
til cool, and mark in squares. (2) I do  
not see any objection to their exchanging  
letters, and I think it would depend  
entirely upon themselves how many sheets  
of note paper they used. (3) The age at  
which a man should propose, you do not  
say whether for the first, second, or third  
time in his life, is altogether a matter of  
taste, and rests with the man to a very large  
extent. (4) The accomplishment that  
most men prefer to see in a girl is the  
ability to cook well, and take good care of  
a house; next, I think, comes a real  
talent for music. (5) I think musical  
men very attractive. I have described my  
personal appearance so often, in these  
pages that people will begin to think I am  
suffering from a moromania for drawing  
pet portraits of myself. I am just like  
everybody else. I have blue eyes  
and dark brown hair, and I  
am rather tall. (6) Eighteen is  
a very good age at which to come out.  
I hope you won't find it so hard to "screw  
up courage" next time, and you did not  
tire me at all.

CANARY, St. John.—What a horrid  
name you chose, my friend! I am afraid  
you are either very vain indeed, or not  
vain enough, which is it? No indeed,  
Geoffrey's mistake made its appearance  
quite unaided, and before he was eighteen,  
so his family records say, and I believe he  
never tried to hurry it by shaving. The  
only thing I know of is vaseline, which is  
a great promoter of the growth of hair.  
Don't laugh but get one grain of oxide of  
mercury mixed in an ounce of vaseline, rub  
it on every night, and I think you will  
soon see an improvement.

SOMEONE ELSE.—(1) Either is cor-  
rect, but perhaps lighted sounds the best.  
(2) Never sign your title to a letter under  
any circumstances, always your christian  
and surname, as "Marian L. Jones;" it is  
the worst possible taste to do otherwise.  
(3) You are quite right about "making  
eyes" at men on the street; no respectable  
servant girl would do such a thing, and I  
feel very sorry for the young girl you  
speak of, because her mother and sister  
knew so little about how a lady should be-  
have herself on the street. I wish you  
could see a letter I've just read from a  
young girl on this very subject, which she  
had been discussing with a sensible  
male friend, who told her just the  
opinion men have of girls who try to  
attract attention on the street. (4)  
Usually, it is quite sufficient to bow, rise  
if possible, but sometimes you know it is  
more awkward to get up, in a hurry, than  
to sit still. (5) It is never beneath the  
dignity of any true lady to bow to her ser-  
vants on the street, you would not surely  
wish your own servant to give you a lesson  
in politeness. In Germany, when the  
baron or the baroness meets one of his or  
her laborers on the street, the servant lifts his  
hat, and the prince responds by gravely  
lifting his, returning courtesy for courtesy.  
You have no idea what keen observers  
and stern critics servants are, and how  
well they know how the superiors should  
conduct themselves. I am glad you like  
PROGRESS so much. I confess I prefer to  
pronounce it PRO-GRESS, I think it sounds  
better. Yes, indeed, I get a great many,  
if I had a dollar for every letter I receive  
in a year, I should be quite rich. What a

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