

## RARE DECEMBER VALUES

In order to make room for spring goods due to arrive shortly we will offer during the present month of December all our new and exclusive winter importations at cost.

Regular \$32.00 Suits now offered at \$25.00  
" 38.00 " " " 30.00  
" 45.00 " " " 40.00  
" 50.00 " " " 44.00  
" 57.00 Top Coats " 20.00  
" 62.00 " " " 25.00

Handsome Separate Skirts at \$8.00 and upwards.

Bocquet, Bloem & Co., 211-2 King Street West.

## Woman's World...

Devoted Specially to the Interests of our Women Readers.

Conducted by Katherine Leslie.

The day dressmaker is quite a personage of importance in every household where the income is not unlimited, and there are girls and women to be clothed. She comes at 8 or 9 in the morning, and remains till 6, cutting, out, basting, fitting, finishing and the amount of work she can get through with is quite amazing. It is provided she is a good seamstress. If there are girls in the home handy with the needle, who will sit with the dressmaker as her assistants, basting or pressing for her, and doing the simpler parts, of course, the work is accomplished much more speedily, and at a price which is about half of what would have been had the garments been sent out. And if good patterns—which are so easily obtainable nowadays—are used, and the dressmaker, or some member of the family, has no lack of style and smartness in the dresses or bodices turned out. Moreover, if they do not happen to fit, or if there is any alteration to be made, there is not the making and sending back the garment, and making an engagement at a busy time to have the gown refitted, and there is no time wasted running back and forth, or up or down town, as the case may be. Many day dressmakers are extremely clever, and turn out really stylish and well made costumes. Some of them excel in evening dresses and bodices while others make a specialty of such things as skirts and shirt waists, etc., although, as a general rule, they are all-round dressmakers, and can handle any article of dress, from a coat to a shirt waist. One sometimes wonders that more women do not take up this profession and work for themselves, or why women do not undertake to do military in the same way. There are housewives in New York, and I am told that their work is most satisfactory. One of these is a man, who charges \$4 a day for his work—which, by the way, is of the first quality. He is a man who is not only a good tailor, but is also a good manager, and is able to do anything that is put into his hands.

The custom of addressing a lengthy and serious sermon to a bride couple on the tremendous responsibility and fearful risks of matrimony, which is gratuitously indulged in by some clergymen when they are requested to give a marriage knot, is one that is not always relished or appreciated by the victims, who, naturally, only look to the usual beautiful and impressive ritual of the ceremony when they have had time to pause and consider and weigh his words. It would not have been so absurd; but at the eleventh hour, before all the assembled guests, when there was no possibility of withdrawal, the minister's lecture seemed something more than belated and inappropriate. It was certainly a deal more than the groom had bargained for. There is a time for everything, and surely the time for considering the responsibilities of matrimony and its awful risks is not at the marriage altar, or in any public place.

A WOMAN'S BARGAIN.  
You will love me, I know, As men love—no better, dear, Worthily. Yes, a woman's Bargain? Perhaps a year. After that, the quiet quest Of possession; careless care, And the calm indifference That all married lovers wear. Blame you, dearest? Not at all. As Fate made you, so you stand; As Fate made you, so you fall. Far below Love's high demand. Yet how strange is Love's deep law. I can look you through and through, Tracing plainly Nature's law. In the heart she gave to you; Knowing all my heart must stake, All the danger, all the fear. And yet she made you so, my dear, This, my loving bargain, dear.

Ever since the outbreak of the war in France, which has brought this country into such prominence, we have been hearing all sorts of curious and interesting things about the customs, habits and characteristics of the Boers. Mr. H. C. Hill has turned his attention to the "Boer girl in South Africa," and has some very odd things to tell of her in the Ladies' Home Journal. The Boer girl of the country districts of the Transvaal is able to go to town only once or twice a year, and

then it is to attend the *Nachmaal* or communion, which is the chief festival of these deep religious people. The journey to town is made in ox-carts, and may require a week or a month's time, but it is always an epoch in a Boer girl's life, especially if she is about 16, when she is supposed to have attained the matrimonial age. Then some tall, robust Boer youth, who she has met at former *Nachmaals*, may summon courage enough to ask whether he may call at her home and have an "up-tilting," which is a sort of an ultimatum before an ultimatum. She consents, the young Boer will shortly afterwards ride on horseback many miles across the plain to the girl's home, and will prove that he is worthy of her love by "sitting up" and talking with her from sundown until daybreak. (O, poor girl! For two young Boers to arrive at this period of courtship is equivalent to announcing the engagement, and then the prospective bride begins preparations for the wedding.)

A very nice dish for luncheon is peas a la Gravelle, which is made as follows: Strain the best canned peas and put them in a stew pan with a half pint of sauce, and give them a toss or two over the fire to get them hot; then turn them out on the dish in which they are to be served; garnish with little heart-shaped croquettes that have been fried a pale golden brown, brushed over on one side with a little raw white of egg. Garnish this with grated Parmesan cheese, a little finely chopped raw green pepper and a little lobster coral or coralline pepper.

A fine example of the tyranny of feminine tears is given in Frederic Masson's book, "Josephine, Empress and Queen," which has been translated by Mrs. Gashell. The Empress was in New York, and I am told that their work is most satisfactory. One of these is a man, who charges \$4 a day for his work—which, by the way, is of the first quality. He is a man who is not only a good tailor, but is also a good manager, and is able to do anything that is put into his hands.

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## MR. WALLACE AND DR. BORDEN

Member for West York Nails the Minister of Militia re the Contingent.

## CHALLENGE TO THE MINISTER.

A Pointed Rejoinder to the Message of Dr. Borden Charging Bad Manners.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The following telegram between Mr. N. Clarke Wallace, M.P., and Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, will be read with interest.

Woodbridge, Dec. 25.  
Hon. Mr. Borden, Ottawa: I am glad to see that your communication to me has elicited a welcome message. I know about it very well, and we knew, too, that it will not stop such a message as was received on Saturday. I am sorry to overlook the time being your negligence and your ebullient temper, if not bad manners, if you will in future keep up duly informed. (Signed) Clarke Wallace.

To this the Minister of Militia replied curtly, as follows:

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## TIGER BRAND CLOTHING

Men's Overcoats

Ought to have a new one, you think—and this "dip" in the weather emphasizes the need—

Buy a "Tiger Brand" and get the best money's worth in good wear and good looks—\$50 to 22.50—Furnishings—

Lined gloves and warm wool underwear—the best sorts here—

Your money back if you want it.

E. Boisseau & Co., Temperance and Yonge.

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## GRAND OPERA HOUSE

Every Evening—Matinee Saturday

JULIA ARTHUR

More Than Queen

BY EMILIE BERGERAT

NEW YORK PRODUCTION INTACT.

Next Monday—Round New York in 80 Minutes.

TWO MORE PRINCES CUMMINGS

STOCK CO IN JULIET

MATINEE 10, 15, 25

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## PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

White Star Line

United States and Royal Mail Steamers

New York to Liverpool, via Queenstown.

Atlantic Oceanic Line

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