

Courier des Dames.

Our lady readers are invited to contribute to this department.

THE FASHION PLATE.

FIG. 1. CRAYAT BOW IN TULLE, LACE, AND GROS GRAIN RIBBON.—This is made up of white figured tulle, 2½ inch lace, and bows, loops and ends of pink grosgrain ribbon. The ends of the crayat are of pieces 4 inches long and eight broad, folded back, as shown in the illustration, and edged with lace.

FIG. 2. CREPE-DE-CHINE CRAYAT.—This is made of a single piece of crepe-de-chine, edged with a pleated fold of the same, which is headed with a ½ in. lace insertion, and finished with 1½ in. lace edged. The lappets are embroidered in white silk satin stitch.

FIGS. 3 AND 4. THE FIGARO FICHU.—The fichu is arranged on a ground of Swiss muslin in gathered ruchings of white crepe-lisse and blue grosgrain, edged with gathered white lace and trimmed with blue grosgrain bows.

FIG. 5. SAND-COLOUR SILK PARASOL.—This is trimmed with ½ in. broad black silk cord and chain stitch embroidery.

FIG. 6. LIGHT-GRAY POULT-DE-SOIE PARASOL, WITH PERSIAN SILK LINING.—Trimming of killed pleatings, 1 inch and 2½ in. deep, of poul-de-soie of a salmon tint, and a 1½ in. grey ribbon. Bows and ends of green and salmon poul-de-soie. Ivory handle.

FIG. 7. BLUE SILK PARASOL.—The lower edge of the shade is pinked out and trimmed with a ½ in. baste-terre piping, and a pinked blue silk edging of ½ in. depth. Higher up a 3 in. baste-terre ribbon edged with silk piping is sewn around the shade. Persian silk lining, blue silk cord and tassels, and yellow cane.

FIG. 8. GREY CREPE-DE-CHINE PARASOL.—The trimming consists of a 2½ in. pleated white lace, and a border of the same width in satin stitch embroidery. The latter is sewn with colored silk on a stiff linen ground, and edged with leaves and blossoms in half-polka stitch. White Persian silk lining and stick of black stained wood. It will be noticed that all these shades are more or less pinked at the edge.

FIG. 9. STRIPED PERCAL COSTUME.

FIG. 10. PLAIN PERCAL COSTUME.—For the trimmings—5 in., 1 in., and ½ in. in breadth—for the bows and girdle, broadly-striped percal is used in both cases. The pleated flounces in Fig. 9 are of the same material as the dress, viz: narrow-striped grey and white percal.

FIG. 11. PLAIN COLOURED PERCAL, THE SKIRT OF WHICH IS TRIMMED WITH A 10½ in. blue cut flounce, edged above and below with folds of striped percal, and higher up in front three 5 in. gathered flounces to match. Basque waist and overskirt similarly trimmed.

FIGS. 11 AND 12. COSTUMES WITH BASQUE WAIST AND OVERSKIRT.—The first is of écarlat; basque waist and overskirt trimmed with insertion 1½ and 1 in. in width; the skirt is trimmed with three rounded, gathered flounces 3 in. in depth, broken at equal distances by upright pleats, 1 in. broad and 10 in. high. The undersleeves, collar, and rosette in the hair are of tulle plaid, relieved with a light blue ribbon. Fig. 12 is a plain grey silk skirt, with overskirt of a grey woolen material with black silk stripes trimmed with black velvet ribbon and a pleated black velvet edging. The basque waist is of the same material as the overskirt, with a capuchon lined with grey silk, and is further trimmed with an arrangement of knotted silk cord and tassels, shown in the illustration.

DISTINGUISHED FEMALE.—A New York correspondent in San Domingo thus describes a distinguished female personage whom it was his luck to meet:—Mounted on a cream-coloured Venezuelan horse sixteen hands high, with white mane and tail, was a lady about two shades removed from the complexion of anthracite coal. She was dressed as no other lady I ever saw before was ever dressed on horseback. Her rig was unique, novel, gorgeous. Her riding robe was sky-blue silk, and around her waist she wore a sash of gold that fluttered in a dazzling streamer behind her. Her hat was plumed with scarlet ostrich feathers. Her ample bosom heaved beneath a sapphire brooch as large as a saucer, and her ears sustained the weight of \$30,000 of diamond brilliants. A necklace of diamonds contributed to the dazzling splendour of her apparel, and its value might be roughly estimated at about \$100,000. Her gloves were yellow doeklin, worn with long gauntlets, such as the English Life Guards wear. The handle of her riding-whip was studded with rubies and emeralds, and the bridle chain of her horse was of solid, glittering silver. This was the dead Emperor's daughter, Princess Soultouque, once the bright particular star of the imperial palace and the beloved idol of Port au Prince.

A New York reporter who attended a banquet concludes his description with a candid statement that "It is not distinctly remembered by anybody present who it was made the last speech."

The new combination of Hypophosphites invented by Mr. Fellows (Fellows' Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites) is making many extraordinary cures throughout the Provinces, particularly in diseases of the nervous system, the heart and the lungs.

Dr. Colby's Anti-Costive and Tonic Pills cure Pimples.

News of the Week.

THE DOMINION.—A Quebec despatch says that the reaction in the taking of the North Shore Railroad stock has been something like an epidemic. It is said that \$100,000 was subscribed in a short time, and that the takers were from all classes of society. It is further rumored that Mr. Cauchon, the President of the Company, will, at its next meeting, resign the Presidency, in fact, that he will withdraw entirely from the Company. The friends of the road are now sanguine of its early and successful completion. A number of the Kincardineshire colonists arrived at Woodstock, N. B., last week. Mr. Punshon left for England on the 20th. The Whitby and Port Perry R.R. has been bought by the Hon. Frank Smith and Mr. James Austin, President of the Dominion Bank. The Ancient testimonial fund has reached over a thousand dollars. A serious fire occurred at Ottawa, by which property to the amount of nearly \$150,000 was destroyed. Mr. John Shedden, of the Grand Trunk, was accidentally killed at Cannington, Ont., on Saturday, while attempting to get on a moving train. The Fifth Provincial Council of the Catholic Bishop of Quebec was opened at Quebec on Tuesday last. Her Excellency the Countess of Dufferin gave birth to a daughter on Saturday. It is understood that the Manitoba deputation at present in Ottawa have asked the Government to extend the limits of the Province both north-east and south, reaching Hudson's Bay, Lake Superior, and the American frontier as far as Ontario. It would give Manitoba a port at the Hudson's Bay Government Factory, which is opened during three months every year. It is said the Government has given its approval to this scheme, which has been put forward by Mr. Royal and his colleagues. This extension would give Manitoba ten times its present area.

UNITED STATES.—The Modocs are still strongly entrenched in a position south of their old lair. The Government is about to send a vessel in search of the *Polaris*. A bill providing for the enlargement of the Champlain Canal has passed the New York Legislature. The Supreme Court has granted a Writ of Error in the case of Edward S. Stokes, upon stipulation by the defense to take the case at once to the Court of Appeals, now in Session. Nixon was executed on Friday last, Governor Dix declining to interfere.

THE UNITED KINGDOM.—The French Government have given renewed assurances of their intention to support England in her efforts to suppress the East African slave trade. The Republican Conference at Birmingham last week adopted a resolution in favor of a federal republican form of government for Great Britain. A *Herald* special from London says the financial cataclysm in Vienna disturbs all the money markets of Europe, and causes a shrinkage in values on the Vienna Bourse of one hundred millions of dollars. The shrinkage in American securities in Germany is estimated at ten millions. In London there was a serious depression on Saturday, which increased this morning. The market recovered this afternoon, but the recent American legislation and hostile tone of a portion of the American press towards European capitalists, occasions general anxiety with investors in American securities.

FRANCE.—A Bonapartist has been returned to the National Assembly; Lyons has returned a Radical. The *Journal des Débats* has been suspended. The resignation of Mr. Goulard Minister of the Interior, and Jules Simon, Minister of Public Instruction, have been accepted by President Thiers. It is reported that the Ministry of Public Worship will be re-established. Several Parisian journals have been fined for republishing the letter of Felix Pyatt, addressed to President Thiers, and printed in the *London Times* on the 1st of April. The *People's Sovereign* newspaper has been suppressed for publishing editorial articles attacking the National Assembly. The President has appointed Mr. Castimire Perier Minister of the Interior, Mr. Tourton Minister of Public Worship, Mr. Beranger Minister of Public Works, and Mr. Waddington Minister of Public Instruction.

GERMANY.—A despatch from Berlin says that the Government is resolved to expel the Redemptorists, Lazarists, the Congregations of the Holy Ghost and the Sacred Heart, and all occupants of clove convents from the country within the coming six months.

SPAIN.—The Monarchists have everywhere abstained from voting in the election for the Constituent Cortes. A Carlist conspiracy for the overthrow of the Republic has been discovered at Madrid. Another Carlist victory is reported. Bradlaugh, the English Republican, goes to Madrid with an address, and Gambetta will meet him at Limoges and they will journey together. The Carlist journal published at Perpignan announces that Don Carlos entered the Spanish Province of Navarre on the night of the 14th inst., and took command of an army of his followers numbering 150,000 men, with which he is resolved to conquer or to die in the attempt.

RUSSIA.—A telegram from Tiflis of the 17th confirms the news that Khiva was taken, and says the Khan was made prisoner by the Russians, who have sustained only a slight loss.

AUSTRIA.—The Czar is expected in Vienna on the 1st June. A hundred failures took place on Friday last in consequence of the financial crisis. The investigation into the charges against the suspended commissioners to the exhibition has been completed and voluminous de-

tails have been forwarded to Sec. Fish. The inquiry developed the fact that the appropriation made by the United States Congress for the exhibition is nearly exhausted. The charges of bribery have been fully proved and it was also brought to light that 30,000 dollars was expended on the roof of the sewing machine department when its actual cost was not more than one tenth of that sum; other reckless expenditures are also proven. Matters now being under the direction of new commissioners goods are arriving rapidly and it is expected the American department will be ready by the 10th of June.

ITALY.—The Japanese Embassy has arrived in Rome. The health of the Pope is improving rapidly. On Monday the Chamber of Deputies approved the first clause of the bill suppressing religious bodies in Rome by a vote of 385 against 13. Fifteen Deputies were absent from the Chamber when the vote was taken. The second clause, with an amendment offered by Riccaoli, granting the Pope 400,000 lire annually for the maintenance of Generals of Orders, was adopted by a vote of 220 against 129.

SWEDEN.—The Coronation of the King and Queen of Sweden took place last week.

SWITZERLAND.—The wife of Father Hyacinthe has given birth to a boy. Several Communists have been arrested at Geneva.

EAST INDIES.—A Bombay despatch says that Admiral Cumming has been ordered to proceed to Zanzibar immediately, with all his naval force, and there await orders from the Home Government.

AFRICA.—Sir Samuel Baker has been heard from and is reported well.

CUBA.—The death of Agramonte is reported.

CHINA.—A terrible conflagration has occurred at Hong Kong on the 22nd of March. Forty-four acres of houses were destroyed and 5,000 persons left homeless. A conflagration occurred in Osaka, Japan, on the 27th March. Many lives were lost. The flames raged all day and night. Two shocks of earthquake occurred at the same place on the 12th March.

Varieties.

A young lady in Greenville, Tenn., recently presented her lover with an elaborately-constructed pen-wiper, and was astonished, the following Sunday, to see him wearing it as a cravat.

NATURAL ERROR.—A young doctor spends his leisure hours in practising on the corner, and passers-by, thinking an amputation is going on inside, are deluded as to the number of the man's patients.

The epitaphs of Dakota papers are most pathetic. John Barrett had been shovelling snow, from which he caught a bad cold, and died. He won't have to shovel snow in the country he has gone to.

Half a pound of shot judiciously administered to sympathetic cats, at this season of the year, will bear fruit in increased hours of slumber throughout the summer, and have a tendency to prevent a corner in the chicken market.

The following notice was lately posted in a church lobby:—"The person who stole 'Songs of the Sanctuary' from pew No. 32 should improve the opportunity of singing them here, as he will have no occasion to sing them hereafter."

The following order is reported to have been issued from the War Office to an inspecting officer:—He was to inspect four regiments in one day, and spend four days on each regiment! A copy of this order has been sent to the Civil Service Commissioners for explanation.

A shrewd cat in Vicksburg, Miss., has been occupied in sitting upon a nest of hen's eggs. At last accounts she had succeeded in getting three chickens safely from the shell and has hopes of a large brood. Cats are not fond of eggs, but chickens at a tender age are to them an especial delicacy.

A SIMPLE PLAN.—"How did you manage to win her affections so quickly, Dan? The receipt's worth knowing." "Oh, that was simple enough," replied he. "The first night that I arrived at the lodging-house in Auckland, I found myself sitting next to a young woman at supper, who, I soon found, was one of the newly-arrived emigrants. I looked her over, and saw she was a round, strong, cheery-looking lass, with a laughing face, and thought she'd do. I didn't know how to go foolin' around her to find a soft place (as you would have done, sir, no offence to you), but just spoke a word or two with her, and when we came out into the passage gave her a squeeze and a kiss. Says she, 'How dare you?' Says I, 'I wants to marry you, my dear.' 'Marry me?' cries she, laughing; 'why, I don't know you.' 'No more do I you, my dear,' says I, 'so that makes it all fair and equal.' She didn't know how to put a clapper on that, so she only laughed and said she couldn't think of it. 'Not think of it,' says I, artful like, 'not when you've come all these thousands of miles for the purpose?' 'What do you mean?' says she, staring. 'Come now,' says I, 'don't tell me, I knows what's what. When a man immigrates, it's to get work; when a woman immigrates, it's to get married. You may as well do it at once.' Well, she giggled a bit, and we were spliced two days afterwards. "Roots" in Temple Bar.

No stock of medicines complete without Jacobs' Rheumatic Liquid.

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THE NEW MAGDALEN.

BY WILKIE COLLINS.

SECOND SCENE.—Mablethorpe House.

CHAPTER XXIX.—Continued.

"I raise you to my level when I make you my wife," he answered. "For heaven's sake do me justice! Don't refer me to the world and its opinions. It rests with you, and you alone, to make the misery or the happiness of my life. The world! Good God! what can the world give me in exchange for You?"

She clasped her hands imploringly; the tears flowed fast over her cheeks.

"Oh, have pity on my weakness!" she cried. "Kindest, best of men, help me to do my hard duty towards you! It is so hard, after all that I have suffered—when my heart is yearning for peace and happiness and love!" She checked herself, shuddering at the words that had escaped her. "Remember how Mr. Holm-croft has used me! Remember how Lady Janet has left me! Remember what I have told you of my life! The scorn of every creature you know would strike at you through me. No! no! no! Not a word more. Spare me! pity me! leave me!"

Her voice failed her; sobs choked her utterance. He sprang to her and took her in his arms. She was incapable of resisting him; but there was no yielding in her. Her head lay on his bosom, passive—horribly passive, like the head of a corpse.

"Mercy! My darling! We will go away—we will leave England—we will take refuge among new people, in a new world—I will change my name—I will break with relatives, friends, everybody. Anything, anything, rather than lose you!"

She lifted her head slowly and looked at him.

He suddenly released her; he reeled back like a man staggered by a blow, and dropped into a chair. Before she had uttered a word he saw the terrible resolution in her face—Death, rather than yield to her own weakness and disgrace him.

She stood with her hands tightly clasped in front of her. Her grand head was raised; her soft grey eyes shone again undimmed by tears. The storm of emotion had swept over her and had passed away. A sad tranquillity was in her face; a gentle resignation was in her voice. The calm of a martyr was the calm that confronted him as she spoke her last words.

"A woman who has lived my life, a woman who has suffered what I have suffered, may love you—as I love you—but she must not be your wife. That place is too high above her. Any other place is too far below her and below you." She paused, and advancing to the bell gave the signal for her departure. That done, she slowly retraced her steps until she stood at Julian's side.

Tenderly she lifted his head, and laid it for a moment on her bosom. Silently she stooped, and touched his forehead with her lips. All the gratitude that filled her heart and all the sacrifice that rent it were in those two actions—so modestly, so tenderly performed! As the last lingering pressure of her fingers left him Julian burst into tears.

The servant answered the bell. At the moment when he opened the door a woman's voice was audible, in the hall, speaking to him.

"Let the child go in," the voice said. "I will wait here."

The child appeared—the same forlorn little creature who had reminded Mercy of her own early years on the day when she and Horace Holm-croft had been out for their walk.

There was no beauty in this child; no halo of romance brightened the commonplace horror of her story. She came cringing into the room, staring stupidly at the magnificence all round her—the daughter of the London streets! the pet creation of the laws of political economy! the savage and terrible product of a worn-out system of government and of a civilisation rotten to its core! Cleaned for the first time in her life; fed sufficiently for the first time in her life; dressed in clothes instead of rags for the first time in her life, Mercy's sister in adversity crept fearfully over the beautiful carpet, and stopped wonderstruck before the marble of an inlaid table—a blot of mud on the splendour of the room.

Mercy turned from Julian to meet the child. The woman's heart, hungering in its horrible isolation for something that it might harmlessly love, welcomed the rescued waif of the streets as a consolation sent from God. She caught the stupefied little creature up in her arms. "Kiss me!" she whispered in the reckless agony of the moment. "Call me sister!" The child stared vacantly. Sister meant nothing to her mind but an older girl who was strong enough to beat her.

She put the child down again, and turned for a last look at the man whose happiness she had wrecked—in pity to him.