

LONDON'S SWELL DRESSES

HEAVY CHARGES MADE FOR SATIN AND TRILLER GOWN.

A suit in Court reveals some interesting facts—Twenty-one pounds for "Mme. Mercer's" White Satin Gown—The Queen's dressmaker.

Before Mr. Justice A. L. Smith without a jury the case of *Cette against Maxwell Heron* was tried yesterday (March 31) in the Queen's Bench division. The plaintiff's claim was for the balance of an account for dresses supplied to the defendant's wife by Mrs. Mercer (whose trustee in liquidation the plaintiff was). The defendant pleaded satisfaction before action, that articles charged for had been returned, and that the price was exceeded.

Mrs. Fritz, daughter of Mrs. Mercer, was called and examined by Mr. Murphy as to the items of the account, which included, among other things, a white satin dress, \$210, and a sapphire velvet coat, \$170.

They could not tell the price of the white satin dress until they had consulted the painter who painted the train. The painting was very costly. Witness took part in examining the bill for \$231 to make altogether, including materials.

They put on 40 per cent. to the price of materials and making. As to the item of \$231 for renovating a white satin dress on June 15, 1881, \$2.10 is added for general expenses, and 50 per cent. The dress had been supplied about a month before for the Queen's drawing room.

Mr. Justice A. L. Smith—Can you tell me what the dress originally cost? Mr. Crump—One hundred and seventy pounds. It was made of 215 for velvet, \$14 for small metal flowers, general expenses \$215 and 40 per cent. added, etc.

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