



## Shoes by Mail

If you don't live in a town where there is a "Slater Shoe" Agency, you can get your exact fit, in shape, size and width, and you can choose the precise leather you want, from "Characteristics," the handsomest and most complete shoe catalogue ever published in America. It tells all about "The Slater Shoe" and accurately describes the different leathers, the kind of wear they're good for, and how to care for them.

Price \$5.50 and \$5.00, stamped on the sole in a slate frame with makers' name.

Write for one, it's free.

## THE SLATER SHOE STORES,

89 KING STREET WEST AND 123 YONGE STREET.

WOMAN'S WORLD  
BY KATHERINE LESLIE

So far as the women's department in the

State Building of the Exhibition is concerned,

there is nothing much over which to

enthusiasm. Year in and year out this de-

partment shows little progress, and this

year there is the same scant evidence of

development. One wonders sometimes why

there is not enough inducement offered ex-

hibitors to prepare really beautiful things

to send up yearly. True, they are not

exhibitors who show a varied display of

needlework of an excellence there is no

questioning; but these are limited to two

or three, who daily carry off the honors

of the work of the majority. If we could

only persuade women that needlework,

plain and decorative, is a really important

branch of art, proficiency in which would

rank them with artists, we might induce

many more with artistic tastes to devote

their time seriously to the cultivation of an

art that is as beautiful as it is feminine.

With the growing taste in this country for

more artistic surroundings in our homes,

there should be a large field for needle-

work, if they would only look away

from their fondness for crude, hard colors

on white, from the eternal "fancy

work" floral designs, that are

traced from last century and from

the limitations of the present un-

progressive school of "fancy workers." In

England I was much struck with the per-

fect workmanship, the originality and beau-

ty in design, the artistic blending and com-

bining of colors, which the needlework of

the women there shows. With them it is an

art to be seriously cultivated. In the Brit-

ish Museum and in South Kensington, the

best women porting over the gorgeous tape-

stries, hangings, vestments and small em-

broderies, which have been collected from

all ages and countries—they study the de-

signs and colors, make sketches, never em-

ploying bought ones, and from these gain

a wonderful field of suggestion for their

work. The fact that they draw their own

designs argues much more for their study

in reproducing them in silk or linen or wool.

The woman who refuses to learn to draw

can never reproduce flowers and foliage

and conventionalized designs on paper, and

has no originality, can never hope to attain

to any excellence in decorative needlework.

A mere blind following of other people's

designs will never make an artist of a

needlewoman.

Now, to return to our Exhibition, a glance

round shows unlimited quantities of tape-

stries, doilies, tea cozies and cushions, but

it must be confessed that very few of

these things display any artistic feeling

in the workers—they are more an evidence

of industry than of a striving after some-

thing beautiful. There is plenty of patient

handwork, but that is all. In the choice

of materials for cushions, for exam-

ple, there is a deplorable lack of taste,

and satins and muslins there are in

plenty, but where are the exquisitely col-

ored linens, wrought in good designs, with

colors that are a delight to the eye, or in

tal exhibit of knitted lace, some of it so

finely that it is a marvel of execution.

Here Miss C. Hallett of Hienheim easily

stands first, while Miss McQueen of To-

ronte wins the blue ribbon. In netting and

knitting, two beautiful forms of work, there

are some wonderfully fine exhibits. Mrs. J.

W. Pedley's doilies or centre pieces de-

signed in both designs and execu-

tion; the little solid white doilies with

the points are particularly effective. The

lady comes deservedly first, while in tar-

netting Miss Lottie McQueen, who is a most

versatile and clever worker in all sorts of

lace and needlework, wins the red card

again. Roman embroidery, when well done,

is always particularly handsome and effec-

tive, and there are some really admirable

specimens shown—note for example the

first prize work of Miss Clara Bell of

Essex, and the second work of Mrs. J.

M. Cording, as well as some of the

others, which are not honored with prizes.

Practical, serviceable and beautiful work

is evidenced in the initial work on hand-

kerchiefs of linen and cotton, on serviettes,

tablecloths and other household linen, here

again Miss Lottie McQueen excels, and

with her, A. Hirst of Tintara, and Mrs. M.

P. Zoller of Mount Forest, whose beau-

tiful Bulgarian embroidery was notice-

able last year. Mrs. B. Colborne of Mon-

terville, and Mrs. Arthur Bowen of

Essex, also show some work of a high

excellence of the needlework department.

There is, too, a case devoted to work done

by old women over seventy, and a very

creditable display of these inspiring old

ladies make. There is a quantity of un-

derlaid lace, and a number of small em-

broderies, which have been collected from

all ages and countries—they study the de-

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## PTE. EDMONDSON HEARD FROM.

Toronto Soldier Writes an Interest-

ing Letter From Springs—The

March Into Pretoria.

Mr. H. Munson, the Yonge-street bicycle

man, has received a most interesting letter

from Pte. W. A. Edmondson of the Royal

Grenadiers, who went with the draft for

the first contingent.

Pte. Edmondson, who is a clever bowler

and is well-known in the city, writes from

Springs, in the Transvaal Republic, that

is what it used to be. His letter is full

of detail of a lot of news that has arisen

since the arrival in Johannesburg and Pretoria

and of the general subordination of Mr.

Boer, as well as reciting some interesting

and exciting experiences which fell to his

lot.

Edmondson has already seen lots of fight-

ing, but he makes no complaint. He

hopes to be on duty again for the coming

season.

Regarding the entrance to Pretoria, he

says: "At 2 p.m. we marched thru the city,

about 25,000 strong, and were received in

the Square by General Lord Roberts. In

passing the general, the band of the De-

partment played for us 'The Boys of the

Brigade,' and you ought to have seen us

back up. It was one of the grandest ex-

periences of our lives, and was worth a

good deal of hardship.

After a day's rest we were moved on to

Springs, 25 miles east of Pretoria, which

is the principal military town of the Trans-

vaal. We are doing garrison duty, and

have a lot of leave to take. I have been

in three weeks, and am that much heav-

ier than I ever was at home."

## EUROPEAN ADVERTISEMENTS.

Write for Samples and Price Lists (Sent Post Free) and Save Fifty Per Cent.

## ROBINSON &amp; CLEAVER

BELFAST, IRELAND,

And 164, 166 and 170 Regent Street, London, W.

IRISH LINEN AND DAMASK MANUFACTURERS

AND FURNISHERS TO

H. H. THE QUEEN, Empress Frederick,

Members of the Royal Family and the

Courts of Europe.

Supply Palaces, Mansions, Villas, Cottages,

Hotels, Railways, Steamships, Institutions, Rest-

houses and the General Public, direct with every

description of

HOUSEHOLD LINENS,

From the Least Expensive to the FINEST in the WORLD.

Which, being woven by hand, wear longer and retain the Rich Satin appear-

ance to the last, by obtaining direct, all intermediate profits are saved and

the cost is no more than that usually charged for common-power room goods.

IRISH LINEN: Real Irish Linen, fully bleached, two yards wide, 4.40 per yard,

8 yards wide, 6.50 per yard. Roller Towelling, 18 in. wide, 4.00 per yard.

Surplus Linen, 4.00 per yard. Damask from 0.75 per yard. Linen Glass Cloths, 1.10 per yard.

The Linens and Glass Cloths, 4.00 per yard. Our Special Soft Fanned Long Cloths from

1.00 per yard.

IRISH DAMASK TABLE LINEN: 18 in. wide, 4.00 per yard. Dinner Napkins 1.25

per pair by yard, 1.00 each. 18 in. wide, 4.00 per yard. 24 in. wide, 4.00 per yard.

IRISH CAMBRIC POCKET-HANDKERCHIEFS: The Cambrics of Robinson & Cleaver have a world-wide

reputation. Handkerchiefs 1.00 per dozen. Gentlemen's 0.75 per dozen. Handkerchiefs

Children's 0.50 per dozen. Ladies' 0.60 per dozen. Gentlemen's 0.75 per dozen. Handkerchiefs

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