

his duties. The Yankee's merriment fairly bubbled over when he beheld the three oboisances with which the Usher received instructions to summon the Commons to the Bar of the Senate, (Mr. Kimbor's Court bow is always in the best form, it must be remembered,) and he exclaimed audibly, and with much emphasis:—"Great Scott! if that feller kin bow that way to the Queen's lieutenant, how he would hump himself *if the old gal was here in person!*"

The Commons have practically done nothing up to the time of writing, but there are indications of coming storms upon the horizon. The first cloud-burst of debate will probably occur upon Mr. Jamieson's Temperance resolutions, and it is quite likely a division will be had upon that issue, which will test the relative strength of the two parties for the session.

The Senate, after passing the speech from the Throne on Monday, adjourned for two weeks. There are something like seven or eight Petitions for Divorce before the House this session, to which I will refer anon. Mr. Gladstone, in commenting upon Margaret Lee's novel, "Divorce," in the last number of the *Nineteenth Century*, characterizes the marriage question as the greatest and deepest of all human controversies, and one cannot but admit the truth of the remark. The condition of affairs in this regard in the neighboring republic is truly deplorable, and even in Canada we are not without cause for alarm. Parliament must use its strong arm to correct the evil, if moral suasion is powerless to that end. DIXIE.

SHOPPING.

The average woman is not accredited with being a good buyer. It is a familiar picture—the weary, fretful, disappointed being who has worn out her shoes, torn her gown, been jostled and pushed about in a crowded shop, and finally rewarded by a remnant or a bit of lace she did not want and which she purchased only because it was a "bargain." A man in similar circumstances would not imagine that shops were charitable institutions and their keepers philanthropists, and consequently would not expect to get a thing for less than its real value. But the so-called bargains are temptations few women can resist, and the announcement of them will usually bring a crowd of females who neither know what they want nor succeed in obtaining it. Would it not be wiser to resolve at the outset to deal only at shops that have a reputation for honesty, where one will not be deceived about the amount of cotton in a woollen fabric, about the fast qualities of a color and about the genuineness of an imitation lace?

In black stuffs especially beware of bargains; often has a black gown turned a shabby brownish-black after one or two wearings, and the owner has realized that her suit is spoiled for the entire season, simply because she refused to listen to advice and bought cheap black stuff. Black does not seem to cost a deal; but a cashmere, cloth or veiling of good quality will endure brushing, making over and freshening for several seasons. For mourning, remember that bordered nun's-veiling is far preferable to a poor quality crape. Another extravagance in mourning is the plaited crape-ruchings; they blacken the throat and are quite unnecessary, inasmuch as a fold of *lisse* or of plain black ribbon is in equally good taste.

It would be well if every woman knew what she wanted before starting on a shopping excursion, but this is not always possible. At any rate, when in doubt as to the material and color to be chosen, it is best to go to a shop where you can look, question and decide without being over-persuaded by an anxious salesman who makes a percentage when he rids the shop of certain undesirable stuffs. And always go to a shop that is well lighted. A dim religious shade is very well for an afternoon tea, but not for choosing a gown that is to be worn in the open air. When selecting an evening toilette, inspect the goods under gas-light; in most large shops there is a special room for this purpose, but where there is not, a dark corner can be lighted up and you can see how the tint looks. A delicate pink too often seems a faded yellow, and a pale blue a dirty white, unless such a trial has been given it.

Remember that silks usually run two inches narrower than the card indicates; twenty-four often means twenty-two inches wide. In wools the double widths are most desirable, and one really saves in buying them; the cost per yard is a little more, but the quantity gotten is larger and cuts to better advantage. In most cases the fold is on the right side, and when this is not the case the difference between the right and wrong side is usually so pronounced that there is no difficulty in deciding about it.

We are rather prone, especially when not buying ourselves, to talk of the value of real lace. But, after all, there are times when the use of an expensive lace would be foolish. For example, the lace boas in vogue; should fine Chantilly be used for one? Certainly not; instead choose a good imitation of French lace or a *point d'esprit*. For a white one select a good copy of real Valenciennes, a Breton or a *point d'esprit*. For a wrapping that is to be thrown about the throat like a boa, one should never choose hand-made lace.

In buying gloves there is wisdom in letting the salesman put them on your hand, even if they have to be taken off afterwards; then if there should be a tear or a rip, they can be replaced at once by another pair. Then, too, let them be stretched and powdered at the shop by experienced hands. To distinguish between long and short fingered gloves and decide which suits you best, is one of the secrets, not only of a well-fitting glove, but of an inexpensive one—inexpensive in that it wears well.

In choosing stockings be as sure of the number as when buying gloves; it is true they are a lottery, but there is some chance that forethought may count. Black hosiery is decidedly fallible; therefore, for general wear, the wise shopper chooses navy-blue of good make and fit. A stocking that is

neither too tight nor too loose will outwear one that does not shape itself properly to the foot.

In selecting muslins remember that the best is not always the heaviest. The latter may answer for some purposes, but certainly should not be chosen for potticoats or underwear; cambric which is wider, and costs only a penny or two more a yard, is just now preferred to muslin. Beware of cheap laces and embroideries on your *lingerie*; the finest underwear is hand-made and has no garniture save that made by hand, with feather or hem stitching. The decoration consists in the beautiful stitches, the regularity with which they are placed and the dainty feminine air thus imparted. Remember that cheap embroidery bears the stamp of vulgarity.

One more caution when shopping: be careful of your money. I am not speaking of economy, but of noting exactly how much you have when you start, counting your change, and putting your silver into a separate compartment of your purse. When you reach home, make out your account; remember the car-fares, the ices and the various little expenses, and do not at once bemoan lost shillings. Shopping is a business affair—if you combine pleasure with it, so much the better, but at the same time the business principle must govern, else there will be no money for another shopping expedition. And remember, too, that all consideration need not be packed, like a precious jewel, in pink cotton and left at home. One need not be familiar with the people on the other side of the counter, but the pleasant word is the helpful one, and it may make somebody else's way smoother. Because you have been pushed is no reason why you should push some one else. The golden rule applies to every situation in life, and nowhere is it so well suited to the time and the people than in a crowded shop. When you become nervous and irritable, visit some other shop, get a mouthful of fresh air, and then, perhaps, you will feel less as if every woman's full weight was against you, and every shop had made arrangements not to keep on sale what you wished. As a last resort, remember that there are more days than one in the year, and "go away and come again another day."—*The Delineator*.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Thirty-five fishing vessels are being built in Lunenburg county.

Messrs U. J. Weatherbee and Joseph Robb will shortly establish a foundry in Springhill, near the Company's works. The lumber for the building is already ordered. They deserve credit for their enterprise.

Messrs Geo. Anderson and R. H. Coggon, engine drivers on the I. C. R., have invented a most ingenious stove, designed for camping out. It is made of sheet-iron and is fastened together by bolts in such a way that in two minutes it can be folded together in a package that may be carried under the arm without the slightest inconvenience. The links of pipe are also of different sizes so that they may be carried one within the other. The Stove was made by Mr. Rowe of Moncton, and is now at his shop. For fishing and lumbering parties it will be just the thing and meet a long felt want.

Mr. E. M. Brown, we understand, will shortly open a furniture manufacturing and repair shop in Stellarton, a step in the right direction. A carriage factory is also much needed. Enquiries are made almost daily for stores to rent, and altogether things appear to be booming in Stellarton.

The Stellarton Brick and Tile Co. intend to enlarge their works and manufacture on a more extensive scale, and in doing so will be able to sell at a lower rate and thus meet the demand for a good article and lower prices. They purpose next summer to build kilns according to the most modern plans. They are satisfied that the material they have at their works at Sylvester, Middle River, is as good as any in the Old Country, which, with the insight Manager Wm. A. Cameron has gained during his recent visit to Great Britain, along with the experience of the past twenty years, will enable them to turn out an article that will be second to none in the world.

The Barrington Wool Manufacturing Company, whose factory is situated on the eastern stream of the main river at Barrington, County of Shelburne, N. S., was formed in 1881 for the purpose of manufacturing union and all-wool homespuns and yarns. Beginning under somewhat adverse circumstances, owing to a dispute arising as to their right to the flow of the stream named, resulting in a long and expensive law suit, which however, established their right to it forever, it has been steadily growing, until in 1888 goods to the amount of \$5,630.82 were turned out, an increase over the previous year of \$591.90. No shoddy goods are manufactured, and since their first yard of cloth was sold, October 8th, 1883, their goods have been favorably received, customers being willing to give an advanced price for a superior article. The mill buildings are two in number, the main building 30x50 feet with a dye house 25x30. The machinery, which is driven by water-power, consists of 2 Crompton and 1 Knowle Looms (new) 1 set of Cards, Spinning Jack, 200 Spindles, 2 inch gauge; Warper, Shearer, Duster, Spooler, Picker, apparatus for washing, and two furnaces with kettle for dyeing, which, with the buildings, have cost \$7000. Competition is keen enough both from mills in Nova Scotia and the large concerns of Ontario and Quebec, and leaves but little margin for profits, but the Company ask only fair play and have no more reason to fear foreign than home competition. They have been successful thus far, and know of no reason why they should not continue to be so. This is the only business of this kind, we believe, ever attempted on the south shore of Nova Scotia, from Cape Sable to Cape Canso, and taking into consideration the difficulties of the position the Company are to be congratulated on the success that has attended their efforts thus far.