

love her, with her town grace and her fair youthful face? Away went all the disengaged, and, shocking to relate, all the engaged young men, to worship at her shrine, and the fair Rivermouthians were left lamenting. This last sad fact I had learned by report, and alas! also by experience, and now I was curious to behold this wonderful personage, and judge for myself of her fascinating powers. It was to the fatal charms of the Judge's visitor that my Cousin had fallen a victim. I dare say you had thought as much long ago. I determined to attend the party next day, given for the sad and bereaved lady, no matter how much influenza Auntie Fan should be pleased to take. Having made up my mind to be present, I next wondered what dress I should wear, the toilets in my simple wardrobe being neither numerous nor handsome. After a lengthened survey of their flimsy scantiness and well-washed fadiness, I came to the conclusion that a *new dress* was indispensable to me as a partaker in the coming festivities. I asked my father for some money, he gave me *four dollars*,—a nice sum that to deck a person out for a party; but I thought it munificent, accepted it joyfully, quickly put on my sun-hat, and took the road to the village store. There was no difficulty, generally speaking, in making selections from the goods from this, our only shop, for every season in the year the proprietors sent to town for two large bales of material, and if you did not like the blue, you must perforce take a suit of the rifle-green, so that, although our skins did differ, we were clothed in blue and green the same.

Being a brunette, with a very brown and red complexion and jet black hair, I was tired of wearing these terrible blues and greens in winter, and fady lilacs and brilliant pinks in summer, and I recollected with pleasure the information that Amoret had communicated to me a few days ago, namely, that Mr. Baize had a piece of white Swiss muslin,—lovely white Swiss,—at a shilling a yard! Cheap and coarse you would deem it, yet so delighted and anxious was I to have a dress of it, that I could scarce keep from running to the store. "White, snowy white, with knots of scarlet ribbon, just like a novel!" I exclaimed, rapturously, giving a skip that startled a little calf grazing by the roadside, and made it skip too with sheer fright. It was a brown calf with very long ears, and it belonged to George. I used to take an interest in it, because I thought that one day it would belong to me too; *now*, so changed were my feelings, that I picked up a stone and threw it at it. I