

and to ladies of high degree and long purses the chief matter of moment is the gentle but absurdly luxurious fancy for fur gowns. From an economical standpoint these novelties in costume represent about the mest daringly extravagint outlay that can be made

A fur tollet is a thing of beauty and in the Klondike regions no doubt it would be a joy forever, but it is a princely indulgence to the woman of our temperate zone. Nevertheless, those exhibited so far have found purchasers at once, for in place of jewels or new furniture or a pair of carriage horses, a fur gown is the sort of gift many a woman wishes. Wishes to find in her Caristmas stocking. Whether the spoiled beauty desired one of mink, Persian lamb or moire broadtail is of no importance.
It suffices to say that all the fur gowns

are rich and sumptuously splendid in appearance beyond any costumes yet from the dressmakers' hands, and that they are likely to consist only of a skirt and coat basque. The skirt is usually quite plain, rather widely gored; in mink the stripes all converge prettly to the waist and lend any figure infinite grace and slenderness. Some of the broadtail petricoats have deep vandykes of ruby red or pansy purple velvet let in about the bottom, but all the fur basques are coat shared. That is there is the product of the p shaped. That is, they possess a waistcoat of velvet most often, over which revers of fur roll and buttons, or turn back, as the wearer goes in and out doors.

But where are these distonishing frocks

worn, is the natural query of the unsophistleated woman, who does not yet aspire to go closed like the wild ones of the woods. Well, they are used on the very cold days for sucp-

closized like the wild cases of the woods. Well they are used on the very cold days for shopping, for driving and short calls, and it is no exaggeration, but a plain, untarnished fact, that a good fur gown costs its owner, or her indulgers husband, the very best part of \$1,000 check.

FURRY TROUSSEAUX.

Apropes of fur and to complete discussion of the subject with a bit of news, it may be told that all this winter's bridal corteges have a very furry expression indeed. That is the femicine half of the immediate participators in the crocession to the aliar.

It is a pretty whim of those young women who marry in the month of snow to have their attendant maids dressed all in white and then to trim the lily gowns with white fur. Daughters of rich carents adorn their bridesmaids' dresses with ermine and white fox, and wear white felt hats with fur edged pridesmaids' dresses with ermine and white pagne tint it seems obligatory to explain, is fox, and wear white felt hats with fur edged a tone paler than amber, with white lights us, beside carrying big white muffs. Even in it. the bride herself now frequently has her train

There is no denying, though, that Freuch ruling on to the length of evening costumes is followed everywhere. Great is the joy among small women over the arrival of the train, and their stout sisters rejoice with for a train makes long lines, and y fervid self-congratulation should equally fervid self-congratulation should stout women express at the marked advance

All manner of striking and pretty schemes of mixing black and white are now carried out. Black lace in drapery is rarely laid over white, but if any one happens to have an old black lace shawl or flounce let her carefully cut out the patterns in the net and group them effectively on a white slik or even a white cashmere ground. A dress, very gorgeous in appearance and yet not a bit qostly, in make, is often thus resurrected from apparently hopeless materials, and if there is a little jet added here or there the result will be astonishing.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE GROUP. By way of an exemplification let the reader efer to the woman's figure in the group about the Christmas tree. Here is a skirt of whatever you will—poplin, moire velours, cashmere or liberty silk. It is white with lace patterns tacked on it. The waist is white chiffon, accordion platted and the little bolero made of two frills of black lace. The long sleeves reflect the skirt, and there, by way of variety, the black satin belt fastens one side and lets fall, far down the on one side and lots fall, far down the drapery, a double wreath of mistletoe. There is a knot of mistletoe and holly on one shoulder; these last touches were put in by the gown's designer in honor of its first appearance on Christmas eve, and because shoulder knots and sash trails of flowers are

worn on all the pretty evening dresses.

A word to the wise is always enough, and if you wish to turn your last year's Eton coat of fur, that of course fits tight, and is therefore hopelessly out of style, lop out your sleeves, down to within two inches and half of the west therefore hopelessly out of style, lop out your sleeves, down to within two inches and a half of the wrist, then go to a furrier and tell him to turn the bulge of those sleeve tops into a psuched front, and to cover your arms with velvat or silk. If silk lay on plenty of braid, mohair of good quality; use the wrist ends of your fur sleeves for cuffs. you are as smart as possible in a

If the jacket needs new lining a plaid silk satin is the correct thing for refurbishing because everything now that can be decently so eclored and striped, even to silk stockings and house slippers, is plaid. Perhaps the pretilest tartan offilty yet seen is liberty silk and silk muslin in the gay Royal Stuart atripes and bars, and these dancing goods, as they may be quite correctly called, make up into lovely evening suits for young ladies. THE PROTEAN SELOUSE. Every week the silk blouse proves itself

garment of Proteus. It is literally the same thing a whole fortnight hrough. Now we have it all of soft silk, referably satin surah, or even a heavy uality of china silk, accordion plaited broughout. Let none but thin women, igh aspire to this phase, as shown

ustration.

model from which the sketch is made was a protty chrysanthemom red china silk, and the frill below the waist, about the wrists and at the neck, edged with narrow cream-colored imitation mechlin lace. En-circling the neck ran a tie of bias white

moire silk and knotted after one of the dozen new modes of draging a tie that has lace ends. By way of a girdle a violet-colored satin ribbon ran round the waist and long loops of it fell from one side, wherein was caught the stems of a sizeable bouquet of velvet violets.

of velvet violets.

By way of news it is necessary to say that ties and girdles of this nature are worn very much. They rather mark the woman who keeps well abreast of the pretty little, who keeps well abreast of the preity little, ever-shifting modes, and they are most inexpensive and decorative additions to any wardrobe. The bouquet of velvet flowers, sometimes a knot of white or red roses, a tuft of pansies, or, at this senson, most often a handful of holly and mistletoe, takes the place, with its ribbon streamers, of the more costly chatelaine, and the cravats are made of whatever you may have in the way of ribbon bits or pieces of silk, satin, moire, etc.

HAT PINS.

the bride herself now frequently has her train edged with fur, and if she and her maids cannot afford fur they do almost as well by themselves in adopting the ever decorative and lovely bordering of comparatively inexpensive swan's down.

Sometimes, even in fashions, common sense has her own way, and every woman is chucking with gice over the defeat of the great Parisian dressmakers who wish to do away utterly with crinolines. Two months ago these great and gifted men, Worth, Dutert, Plugot and their lik, cut a new skirt with just four straight seams, actually shood out that Greek draperies were to be our models for the coming half-dozen years, with notice crinoline, hair cloth, or what you please to use as stiffening, will be worn to adopth of six inches at every skirt's foot.

There is no denying, though, that Freeden failing as to the length of evening costumes is fellowed everywhere. Great is the joy amone small woman over the arrival of the sum of the same in the plant of the same is fellowed everywhere. Great is the joy amone small woman over the arrival of the sum of the same of the same may be amone mail to be such as the fellowed everywhere. Great is the joy amone small woman over the surrival of the sum of the sum of the sum of the sum of the same training as the length of evening costumes is fellowed everywhere. Great is the joy amone small woman over the arrival of the sum of the sum

but until this moment it has been unde-plably too light for heavy winter weather. the muscovite species is nothing more than the weave of cashmere worn in winter in thussia, with a thick warm, woolly inside facing that keeps up the heart and the heat, while outside it is simply be utiful cashwhile outside it is simply be will cashwhile outside it is simply be utiful cashwile outside it is simply as a simple outside it is simply be utiful cashwile outside it is simply as a simple outside it is simple outsi mere that pleases the fastidious eye. M. DAVIS.

AN AUCTION FOR WIVES.

If Was Held Under Greenwood Tree in Old Colonial Days of Virginia. From the earliest settlement of the colo-iles there has always been a defect in the writer says: distribution of women in this country. It is a historical fact that while one section has always suffered from an embarrassment of bad in the choice of them, for there hath was joy and gladness. vation. At the outset of American coloniza- good recommendations. tion the wilderness was hungry for men to till it, and thousands of the idle laborers of several householders that have wives.

"Those that went over to that country first were chiefly single men, who had not the incumbrance of wives and children in England; and if they had, they did not expositely to the following them to the following them. them to the fatigue and hazard of so

A word must be said in behalf of those who are easting about for a stout, serviceable and pretty midwinter gown, and for the new goods that just fills the bill called muzcovite cashmere. Coshmere is perhaps of all dress goods considered the smertest, but until this manner it has been under to the young planters, and the following year another consignment was made of sixty young maids of virtuous education young, handsome and well recommended. A wife in the first lot sold generally for 100 pounds of tobacco, but as the value of the new article became known in the mirket the price rose and a wife would bring 150 pounds of totacco. A debt for a wife was of a higher dignity than other debts and to be paid first."

THE AUCTION. In a letter still in existence, dated London, August 21, 1621 and directed to a worthy colonist of that settlement, the

riches another has pined in a needless pri- not been one of them received but upon

Robert Beverly, in the "History of Virginia," published in 1705 and 1722, says: of Virgina prove the over. The archives

in those days. The good minister of the colony no doubt had a busy time that day. in those days.



of young women were put up at auction beneath the green trees of Jamestown, and fade unplucked by the reverent hand of where probably the most anxious and interested crowd of auction habitues ever known in the history of the world were gathered and sold for 120 pounds of leaf totacco each, and it was ardered that this debt should have precedence of all others. The solliary "one widow" went along with the others, for they could not be particular in those days. The good minister of the ward her to him at his cost and risk, pro vided she does not object.

The fact that reasonably eligible bachelors in the interior of the country should find it necessary to send to an eastern port for wives points out a deplorable fault in the contemporary social state. To correct this fault in distribution, so painful to contem-plate and endure from the point of view of either section and of either sex is a problem which has received the profound attention of our social economists from the foundation of our country.

CHRISTMAS CHEER.

How to Serve a Toothsome and Digestible Family Dinner.

Red is par excellence the Christmas color For a big family dinner cause the table to shine with satin smooth napery and highly polished eilver and glass. A little Norway pine, twinkling with small crimson tapers and flashing with tinsel, should always occupy the place of honor in the center, and low, wide bowls of scarlet roses add perfume as well as further touch of color to the

It is better form to arrange all the silver at the right of the plate, with the article first wanted farthest away. The oyster fork, for example, should be to the extreme right. the soup spoon next, and so on to the coffer spoon, which is nearest the plate. By this arrangement the table presents a far more orderly appearance as the dinner progresses han by the previous methods.

a stick of horse radish, then grate. Mix two tablespoons with a teaspoon of salt, two tablespoons of tarragon vinegar and a salt-spoon of made mustard. Beat up the yolk of an egg in one gill of cream and stir into the sauce. The cream and egg rob the horse of an egg in one gill of cream and stir into the sauce. The cream and egg rob the horse radish of its excessive sharpness. Tomato Soup—Ingredients: Three pints of chicken broth, two quarts of beef broth, six-

teen ripe tomatoes or three pints of the canned, three tablespoons butter, three tablespoons flour, one stalk of celery, six

whole cloves, five slispices, one onion.

Put your butter im frying pan and when it is hot put into it three tablespoons of flour and stir until it is smooth and of a light brown color. Then set it aside and let it Cut the celery into small pieces and cook

it with the whole cloves, allspice and cook Strain off the juices. Squeeze the water out of the ripe tematoes or turn it out of the canned. Boll up the pulp, strain and pour into the chicken and beef broth, which has also been brought to boiling point. To this add the juice of the mixture and last of all stir in the prepared flour. Into this put dice of toasted bread. flour. Into this put dice of toasted bread.

Sweetbread Patties—First stand the sweetbreads—about three pounds—in cold water an hour or two, then par boll, cool and remove the rough edges, membranes and sinews. Then place in cold water and keep on ice until wanted. Put into frying pan four ounces of butter, and when it melts, split the prepared sweetbreads in two and saute them in the butter. Open a can of fresh mushrooms, rinse in cold water, cut them into quarters, add them to the aweetbreads with a pint of bolied cream; season with salt and pepper. Dissolve a happing tablespoon of flour, add it, and simmer until the sauce is thick and smooth. Serve on square or puff paste. square or puff paste.

A mushroom stuffing made after the following recipe is excel a quarier of a pint when chopped. Add to these one ounce of new ham chopped, a tesspoon of parsley, a little lemon, thyme, pepper and salt and a bette tenion, thyme, pepper and sait and about as much finely chopped onlon as will fill a sait spoon. Fry the whole in a little bacon fat, letting it get hot before adding the mixture. Cook the stuffing until it is reduced a little, add bread crumbs to make of the right consistency and use in the

ordinary way.

Biked Onions—Select large, perfect, imported Spanish cnions. Cut these (up and down) into slices about one-quarter of an inch thick. Dust well on both sides with salt and

Put a piece of butter the size of a walnut into a pan and melt. When hot place into it the seasoned slices of cnion and bake

about a half hour, Chicken Salad-Cut the meat of one

chicken and an equal amount of celery in small pieces and mix well together. The dressing for this salad is made by pitting into a farina boiler five spocafuls of vinegar and when warm add to it butter the size of a walnut, the yolks of five eggs thoroughly heaten, the just of butter the size of batter. beater, the juice of hilf a lemon, one-half teaspoon of silt, a dust of cayerne papper and an equal amount of mustard.

Whip one pint of heavy cream and add to the above mixture when cold; mix this creasag thoroughly through the chicken and

DAINTY CHRISTMAS BUNDLES.

Careful Packing and Wrapping Ad !cd to Its Attractiveness. Pleasure accompanying the receiving of a gift depends largely upon the daintiness of its wrappings, as well as ucon its general copropriateness to the one for whom it is intended.

A really very pretty present loses much of its apparent value by being carelessiy oacked, while the simplest article may be One of the prettiest up-to-date effects is greatly enhanced in value if it is preitily to have leading from the small Christmas wrapped.

don, August 21, 1621 and directed to a worthy colonist of that settlement, the worthy colonist of the small Christmas the small finches in width, fringed at either end with the small chirts, can be bought for a call favorite and a young word, has the unique distinction of being care of bidded in a plain square. Fincy and the closer of inclosing a square of bidded in a slovenly fashion. There exists in the United States today the same defective distribution of women and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts and the custom of inclosing a square of picts an

may thoroughly appreciate the kind thought that prompted its bestowal—and love the giver, too!

To give successfully, study not so much your own tasts as that of the person you intend to remember with a present, and you

your own taste as that of the person you intend to remember with a present, and you will be more size a standary your end.

A bright chrome would be more acceptable as a decoration for the walk of a poor man's cottage, and give him and his family more delight in looking at its gay colors than the richest etching, while your rich friend, whose taste is highly cultivated, would thank you heartly for the latter, where the former would fail to even attract attention.

A good suggestion for a wrapper for anything that can be rolled long and narrow is to make a large German motto. A mouchoir case, or one for cravats or vells, a few hand-kerchiefs, ties, etc., can all be wrapped as

terchiefs, ties, etc., can all be wrapped as

follows:

Take a sheet of plain tissue raper first, and enciese the article, then roll all in a sheet of heavy crimped tissue paper, in some pale color or white, or if preferred, the white with a tisted border is a pretty style in crepe paper. The it about the center with a broad, pretty ribbon in harmonizing or contrasting shades, and where the emiss of the paper extend beyond the article pull them out gently between thumb and fingers, giving a fluted appearance. It is also a great addition to slip a sprig of artificial flowers through the bow knot, taking care to make them appropriate in color.

them appropriate in color.

White paper bundles tied about with red ribbon and a bit of holly thrus through, or green, with mistletoe, make charming Christmas mortoes, and if a line of sentiment be written on a scented sheet and enclosed be-tween the wrappings the Illusion is complete, One useful and pretty gift was accom-panied in this manner by this little French couplet:

Je vous aime, je vous adore Et que voule-vous encore?

CHRISTMAS NOTES. Tips on Triples Appropriate to the Holiday Season.

To make a Christmas bell use two ox muzzles for a foundation, fastening the top of one a little way up into the center of the other to give the proper length to the bell. Fill this solidly with moss and then trim with holly berries and a bit of mistletoe. A calla Illy makes a prettty clapper. Suspend the bell by scarlet ribbons.

The foliage of a Christmas tree may be brushed here and there with mucilage and then sprinkled with common salt and a very pleasing result is obtained. A pretty drapery pleasing result is obtained. A pretty grapery for the tree is made by cutting long strips, about four toches wide, of tissue paper, then cutting it closely, partly, but not entirely across the widths, making fringes; if the strips be dampened and held over a hot slove the fringed edges will curl and look cutte crossmental.

quite ornamental.

In Paris this year the fir tree is to be dis-In Paris this year the fir tree is to be discarded as the Christmes tree and huge, odorous Spanish furze bushes, covered with their golden yellow blossoms, will be the thing. These bushes are put in great square boxes of Spanish falence. The candles are pale pink and golden yellow; the smaller gifts are placed in nests of span silver—made of tinsel—a star centered by a tiny electric light glistens on the topmost branch of the tree. Yule packages are intensely exciting if each one is wrapped in successive papers, with successive addresses, so that no one knows

successive addresses, so that no one knows if the present will stay with him or whether he must hand it on to another.

Christmas bags offer a pleasant diversion. They are made of tissue paper, 18x9 inches, and filled with bonbons. Suspeed each by a thread in the doorway, blindfold each child and let him try to knock one with a cane. If successful at the second or third effort, "to

if successful at the second or third effort, "to the winner belongs the prize."

A green ball to suspend over the Christmas dinner table is made by fasteoing two keg hoops together, one within the other, turning each way like an open globe. Twine princess pine around each hoop and put in sprigs of holly here and there. This, indeed, is similar to the old "kissing buoch," which is seen in many old-fashioned homes in Eagland. Two wooden hoops, one passing through and. Two wooden hoops, one passing through the other, decked with evergreens, in the couter of which is hung a "crown" of rosy apples and a sprig of mistlesce. Beceath it there is much kissing and romping and the carrol singers stand beneath it and sing their songs.

Woman is a subject never mentioned in Morocco. It would be considered a terrible breach of etiquette to ask a man about his

Miss Jessie A. Ackermann, who has been around the world twice in the interests of ne Woman's Christian Temperance union, now in Baltimore.

The citizens of Liverpool have on hand a fund for a monument to Mrs. Hemans, one of the first women to enter the field of English poetry. A friend having declared in Mrs. Siddon's

nearing that applause was necessary to necessary the near that it gave them confidence, "More," erposed she; "it gives us breath." Miss Jennie Werthelmer of Cincinnati has invented a commercial paper which excludes the possibility of forging names or otherwise tampering with its face value. The in-

contion has been sold to a New York firm for Miss Frances Willard recently made tirring address in Chicago and in the col-so ion taken afterward was found a mag-

nificent diamond and emerald ring of great value Miss Hamilton, or rather Dr. Hamilton, the English woman who has been court physi-cian of Afghanistau for many years, says it

impossible for a westerner to understand an oriental. Mme. Diaz, wife of the Mexican president Aime. Diaz, wife of the Mexican president, has founded a home where girls can always find employment, a nursery where children of working women are cared for, and a Mag-dalen home for repentant sinners.

Baltimore's Rainy Day club appears in short skirts, boots and leggings, and is de-vising a waterproof costume with a view to discarding umbrellas. What ducks these women must be.

A Norton county (Kar.) paper, in speak-ing of Miss Kate Johnson the county treas-urer-elect, says: "She is good looking, jolly, well fixed financially, full of business, likes empany, but couldn't be dragged into a pink ea with a four-horse team."

PANEL SHOWING THE WISE MEN OF THE EAST AND THE GIFTS THEY BROUGHT,

