Fashions of the Day.
Most women one knows will have good clothes, and can pay good prices for them. Why they are content to pay for being gowned and hatted like twenty or thirty other women in their own set, with whom they cone in daily contact, has been and ever will be deep unpenetrable mystery to me.
Only this week I have seen Mrs. Oliver Belmont, Mrs. Hermann Oelriches, Miss Fair, Mrs. "Willie" Travers, Miss de Wolfe, and nsarly a dozen other women whoee namee I can't recall, wearing identically the same hat. Of course I don't mean there was only one hat among the lot of them-but all their hate were fashionod on the same model, a equatty turban, with the brim formed of breasts of birde, and a bird sitting up in front. Not unlike the nougat and spun candy arrangements one sees at Easter dinners.
This is only one of many samilar incidents. Take th, black and white pol-ka-dotted gown that Mrs. "Clary" Mackay is wearing with the crise-cross effect on the bodice and skirt. If I have seen ons gown built on this model, I have seen fifty. Every dressmaker in town is showing it in every conceivable combination of coloring. It is what the dressmaker calls "a good seller." When the women get through buying it and assemble at eome general meeting-place, the reault promises to savor strongly of the ladicrous.
Ot course I know this is a big world, with very many women in it. But judging from the number of badly dressed ones we meet, it would seem as though good taste were a very scarce commodity in the land.
Why not form clasees, take lessons, do eomething to cultivate, if not good, at least better taste?
1 have noticed that the sharpening of the artistic preceptions does a lot for the progressive development of one's character generally.
Teach one's mind the importance of beautiful things, and it will soar above much that has satisfied it before and that is unworthy.
There are clever people with original her
ideas on all artistic subjects in this and every coantry, lacking only the money and opportunity that such women as I have here named, and huudreds like them, poesess.
Why will not some of them lead the way out of the monotonous rut into which women of wealth and fashion have fallen?
Let them clamor for individuality and originality is all their belongings; when the demand is felt the supply will be tortheoming, and speedily too. Then, and only then, can the dressing of womon become an art.
Enough of the future, let us discuss the present.
Polka-dot rampant is the summary of the week.

Not only does it reign supreme in Mrs. Mackay's dazzling toilette, but it is to be found on materials of all kiuds, from gauze to velvet, and in ail sizes, from the dimensions of a small pea to those of a large dime.
A very smart dincer gown that I saw the other day (it had just "come over,") was in black grenadine, very sheer, with black silk dote embroidered closely all over it.
It had a long skirt with a quanity of little frills of dotted grenacine, and a polonaise over drapery edged with three of the same tiny frilts ae on the skirt.
The waist was quite simple and made surplice faehion, fastened on one side, in the style worn last jear. But the Parisienne never tires of this effect. She is constant to it as to the everlasting guimpes she loves en well.
There were a high neck, long sleeve, and transparent guimpe also with this


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gown, so that it could be worn as a heatre druss it desired.
Separate detachable guimpes are invariably botches, in my opinion, and no smartly gowned woman should ever be guilty of them, unless she is willing to be classed in the same category with the u.an who wears detachable cuffe with his shirts!
The transparent sleeves and guimpes, when they are permanent fixtures, are exceedingly chic, and so comfortable and cool in a hot theatre that one wonders how one endured the two or three hours in the dreadful atmosphere of the average playhouse without them.
Speaking of playbouses, I went to see Julia Arthur again the other night in The Lady of Quality.
Such gowns! Surely My Lady Dunstanwolde, the toast of all Londot, the beauty of the season, with unlimited wealth at her command, might have found some one to do more justice to her harms.
hethinks the tailor that built her red coat and black satin breachee under stood better how to make the most of her.
I would go back to him if I were My Lady Dunstanwolde!
I have received a line apropos of the paragraph that Saunterer published last week commenting on mournitg going ont of fashion among the smart set. My correspondent calls my attention to the fact that Mrs. "Carley" Havemeyer is wearing a string of pearle with a pearl pendant with her widow's weeds, and begs me to say whether I think it is good taste for ber to co so. I don't think I care to eay, never having been a widow and not hav ng any pearls that would offer any serious temptation to anyone to wear them. I don't believe I am really competent to pass judge ment upon Mrs, Havemeyer. I will say, though, that she is nuite enough of a beauty to be able to go unadorned for a longer time than is consic'ered necessary to mourn one's husband when one beAgs to her set.
After all, every thing depends upon one's point of view.
I heard of a woman the other day who said-and said it with the utmost sincerity and enthusiasm-that she thought the violet and red gown that Mise Bingham wears in "On and Off" was "the
ost elegant she had ever seen." What is the use of struggling for art in gowns after that?

## A|TTI-PILL

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"GIVE US BACK THE TAILS."
If we, as Mr. Darwin says,
From monikeys are descended, Old Time, in changing things hath not As yet the matter mended.
Descendants of our ancestors
Have no such times as they,
Who have no rent or tax

## Of government to pay.

No tailor bills came in-Dame Nature Clothing gave -
And freatss of fashion do not make
Of monkey-girls a slave.
So the olden way's the happiest way: The new condition fails;
And Darwin; if you can, my boy, Just give us back the tails. No hurrying out of bed had they: No bolting breakfast down: No hasty walk to shop in fear Of some old boeses frown. The lady-monkey sat not up Till day the night did rout,
In waiting for the lodge to ciose
To let her husband out.
They had no votes, 'tis true, but they'd No officers to keep:
And o'er defaulter's cash account
They never had to weep.
So the olden way's the happiest way:
The new condition fails;
And Darwin, if you can, my boy,
Just give us back the tails.
They had no fashion's promenade, Where beauty's feet could stray: But then the boss-monkey had Not a milliner to pay.
They had no wine, the monkey's young Through night to keep a storming: They thereby saved (you know yourself) A headache in the morning
A peaceful race were they, who ne'er To war's appeal did fly:
They saved thereby occasion for A Joint Commission high.
A smarter race were they than that Which from them hath descended And Time, by changing things, hath not As yet the matter mended.
For the old way's the happiest way: The new condition fails; So Darwin, if you can. my boy. Please give us back the tails. From The Philadelphia Bulletin.

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