

THE TACTLESS GIRL—ARE YOU ONE?

The tactless girl is the one who says the wrong thing to the wrong person at the wrong time and in the wrong place. She always drives a round peg into a square hole, and wonders why there are odd vacancies staring at her from every direction. Frequently her friends come to her aid and fill up the blank corners with a quality the girl herself cannot command.

It is almost pathetic, at times, to watch her disentangle herself from one social knot only to become hopelessly fastened in another.

She jumps from the proverbial frying pan into the fire and back again, arousing sympathy in the hearts of her friends and joy in those of her enemies.

It is the tactless girl who, when she is talking with a man below the average height tells him how she admires a tall, herculean physique. She tells the blond girl that the only true beauty, to her mind, is the brunette type. If she is conversing with any one whose daughter or son eloped with the laundress or ran away with a circus rider, she stumbles upon the subject of romance, and wonders why her vis-a-vis seems bored or uncomfortable. She never notices that she is persisting in an unwelcome topic, but wanders on, tactlessly.

She is permitted to look at a portrait of her hostess—a work of art, perhaps, and the pride of the woman whose features it flatters.

"Oh!" exclaims the tactless girl, without thinking, "It must have been copied from a photograph taken several years ago!"

In the same unthinking manner she tells the man whose wife is his particular joy but who runs the house with conspicuous colorings in her gowns, that the truly well dressed woman never wears brilliant shades, but adheres to the most conservative tones in her toilettes. Then she wonders why he scrutinizes all the women in the room and compares them to his wife.

HOW TO FORCE A PROPOSAL.

One peculiar attribute of the human family is the wide difference of opinion regarding the serious problems of life. Another is, that the vast experience of others will not suffice for us; we decidedly like a way of our own; and still another is, the varied conditions of life which arise in consequence of our solutions of these problems.

It has been said that, "To every question there are two sides." At first thought we would hardly consider the problem of "forcing a proposal" applicable to this rule, but a little reflection forces the conclusion, that there are two sides—the man and the woman side. Writing from a woman's point of view, this article shall be confined mainly, to that side.

A proposal, as the culmination of our love and admiration of one of the opposite sex, naturally deals with the dearest emotion of the human heart—love—and, being the channel which opens into the wide matrimonial sea, it is through this that we expect to reach our highest happiness in conjugal bliss.

To man, the Divinely adjudged head, belongs the sole right of offering a proposal; to woman, the happy afterthought of God's creation, the right of acceptance or rejection. Somewhere in the aged past, man learned the art of "forcing a proposal" to the object of his love, and somehow, learned also the art of holding an irresistible charm over the mind and heart of his lady-love, thereby securing the coveted prize for his very own. Just how he manages this, we suggest that some ready-witted benedict tells us.

Be this as it may, we strongly maintain that women can cultivate the art of "forcing a proposal" without restraint, and at the same time, without the least impropriety or encroachment upon the rights accorded man. Not by the simpering silliness affected by some unthoughtful young woman; not by gaudy attempts to excite in dress and personal adornments; not by a continual race of trying to appear what in reality she is not, but by a deep consciousness of the grave responsibilities of the position of wifehood to which she aspires; by a careful cultivation of the many graces which adorn noble womanhood, and by a purpose as fixed as the very stars, to be a gem of the purest type, shall she accomplish this, and fulfill the designs of her Creator.

Whatever the frivolous man may appear to enjoy, when the test of his better judgment, as well as his affection, is called into play, he will invariably be attracted to the worthiness of the woman he desires to bear his name. Consequently the woman who would force a proposal from the idol of her heart, has abundant opportunity to exercise her good sense, privileges, preference, etc.

When she has learned the weight of modesty, the depths of purity, the power of merit, then will she have acquired the art and secret of forcing a proposal.

MRS. T. J. STAGNER.
Dearborn, Mo.

HARSH CRITICISM.

Ripley Hitchbrook, the noted critic of New York, was talking at the Century Club about harsh criticisms.

"As harsh a criticism as I know of," he said, "was compactly and neatly uttered by a bishop last spring.

"A minister wrote a commentary on the Lamentations of Jeremiah, and sent it to the bishop, along with a note asking for a few critical words.

"The bishop sent the book back, after he had read it, with this judgment:—

"There is but one thing that I regret about this work—namely, that Jeremiah is not living now to compose a fresh book of lamentations on your commentary."

POINTER FOR SCHOOLMA'AMS.

Winston Churchill, the brilliant and powerful novelist, was talking in Concord about his failure to secure the nomination for the New Hampshire governorship.

"There are tricks in every trade," said Mr. Churchill gravely. "Perhaps in politics there are tricks I haven't learned yet. Perhaps my political opponents were as crafty as the young Sunapee schoolma'am.

"This schoolma'am never seemed to work particularly hard, and yet she had always the best class in the Sunapee district school. Not one of her pupils ever failed to be prepared for his tasks. No matter how difficult, how complex a question this schoolma'am might ask every hand would at once go up.

"Hence, whenever visitors came to the school, they were always taken to the schoolma'am's room, and she would hold a sample recitation for their benefit.

"And such a recitation as it would be! Perfect, absolutely perfect! Every question answered with the utmost unparalleled accuracy.

"One day a jealous-minded teacher suspecting that it was impossible for any class of children to be always so perfectly grounded on their lessons, gave one of the schoolma'am's boys a ten-pound can of maple sugar for a bribe, and the boy made a confession.

"He confessed that in exhibition recitations, by arrangements with the teacher every pupil held up his hand at every question; but he held up his left hand if he did not really know the answer, his

right one if he did. Thus, by only questioning the right handed boys, the schoolma'am made her wonderful showing."

NAMING THE TWINS.

A Washingtonian whose wife presented him with twin daughters aptly named them Kate and Duplicate. Several years later twins were again born into the family—this time boys, who were duly named Peter and Repeater. When this pair was followed by a third the names were not found unprepared. As they were boys also he named them Max and Climax.

The British war of 1812-14 with the United States is perhaps the only instance on record of a war terminating without either party suing for or granting peace.

The pattern 5555 is cut in sizes for girls of 12, 14 and 16 years of age and will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents. (If in haste send an additional two cent stamp for letter postage which insures more prompt delivery.)

SACQUE NIGHT GOWN 5540.

To Be Made With or Without Applied Yoke.

The plain sacque night gown is preferred by many women to every other sort and unquestionably has advantages that are all its own. It is perfectly smooth over the shoulders and can be made from the heavier materials without clumsiness or disagreeable bulk while it is quite sufficiently full at the lower portion for genuine comfort. This one allows a choice of yoke or no yoke and is made with the wide roll over collar so becoming is equally well adapted to flannel, flannelette and muslin, cambric and all the thinner materials used for garments of the sort. As illustrated it is made of longcloth with frills of embroidery.

The night gown is made with fronts and back and when the yoke is desired it is applied over indicated lines. There are hems at the front edges and the roll over collar finishes the neck. The sleeves are in one piece each, gathered into straight bands.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 6½ yards 27 or 6¾ yards 36 inches wide with 2 yards of embroidery for the frills.

The pattern 5540 is cut in sizes for a 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inch bust measure.

HOUSE CLEANING.

This is the season when nearly every house in the land is turned topsy-turvy for the better part of a week at least, because the good wife is in the midst of a semi-annual or annual house cleaning. It is a wearing time for every member of the family. The men folks, if they dine at home, have to put up with such diners as the rush of work indoors will permit, while the women folks are nearly all reduced to nervous and physical wrecks in an endeavor to do as much work in a day as ought to be done in a week, and few women, after house cleaning is over are in a condition either physically or mentally to properly enjoy the fruits of the victory achieved.

It may seem impertinent for a mere man to intervene, as the legal term is, in a proceeding that has back of it, custom as old that the "memory of man runneth not to the contrary," and which in any court in the land, barring a specific statutory enactment, would give it all the force and effect of an "unwritten law," but it has seemed to the writer for years that women could make this work easier, if not more thorough, by dividing it up.

For example supposing, that instead of tearing the house up from top to bottom at certain times in the fall and spring, the methodical housekeeper would adopt the plan of thoroughly cleaning one room every month or every two months and this, year in and year out. This would not only lighten her work, but the house itself would be the better for it. This is the plan pursued in large hotels where the proper care of guests will not permit tearing the house up from top to bottom.

Some housewives clean house once a year and some once every six months. The former usually select the spring and the latter the fall and spring, and both when cleaning time comes, display an energy and industry wonderful to behold. For the time being the men folks are not only ignored, but wiped off the map. If they undertake to assert themselves, they are promptly and expeditiously made to realize their mistake, and if they are wise they will immediately assume an attitude of innocuous desuetude.

The necessity for periodical house cleaning being admitted, though well kept houses are supposed to be clean and wholesome at all times—the thing the housewife should consider is how the work may be done with the least discomfort to the family and with the least mental wear and tear, so far as she is concerned.

Rooms, in which there are carpets or rugs and placed furniture, will always have places that cannot be reached with either the broom, the carpet sweeper, the duster or the scrubbing brush, and these will, in a few weeks or a few months, accumulate an astonishing amount of dust and dirt. To go over the house from top to bottom and renovate it, after such a period of dirt accumulation, is no easy task, and it requires all the energy and all the enthusiasm which housewives usually display when house cleaning time arrives.

Now, if the good housewife would change her programme and clean one or two rooms a month, and do the work as thoroughly as she does the entire house at the regular cleaning time, she might be able to make it of a less wearing task, both mentally and physically, and she would be able to keep her house in a better condition for health and comfort than if she were to permit the dirt of a year to accumulate in every room, with the possibility of such accumulation engendering a dangerous, if not a fatal, disease.

Of course, certain housekeepers may object to having it drag through the entire year, and it would be hard for them to give up the excitement, even if willing to give up the work, of the regular spring cleaning, but in the end, the result would be the same. Each room would be cleaned at stated intervals, and the whole house as often, if not oftener, than under the present high pressure system.

IN FASHION'S WORLD.

BY MAY MANTON.

CHILD'S COAT 5551.

To Be Made With or Without the Cape.

The simple long coat that falls in unbroken lines from the shoulders is the favorite for the younger children, and is always becoming. This one allows a choice of cape or no cape and is adapted to almost all cloaking materials. In the illustration it is made of broadcloth with collar and cuffs of velvet or velveteen, but velvet and velveteen and corduroy are all used for the coats with collars and cuffs of broadcloth, the fur plushes are greatly in vogue and also cheviot and mixtures are allowable, although smooth finished cloth is a bit prettier and better liked. Dark red, brown and green are favorites among the darker shades while for the dressy coats light blue, white and champagne color take first place.

The coat is made with fronts and back and can be made adapted to tiny boys as well as for little girls, as it can be closed either at the right or left side. Also the cape can be used or omitted as liked while the collar finishes the neck in either case. The sleeves are in regulation style with turnover cuffs.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (4 years) is 3½ yards 27, 2 yards 44 or 1½ yards 52 inches wide with ½ yard of velvet for collar and cuffs.

The pattern 5551 is cut in sizes for children of 1, 2, 4 and 6 years of age and will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents. (If in haste send an additional two cent stamp for postage which insures more prompt delivery.)

THREE-PIECE SKIRT 5568.

Perforated for Walking Length.

There is no skirt more graceful than the one with circular sides and here is an unusual model with a narrow front gore that forms a plait at each side and with double inverted plaits at the back. As illustrated it is made of golden brown broadcloth, stitched with beading silk and trimmed with exceedingly handsome buttons, but there is no fashionable material that cannot be utilized. The skirt is adapted both to the house and the street and consequently is available for thinner as well as heavier materials while the style is such as to lend itself with equal success to all. It is perfectly smooth over the hips yet takes most graceful and abundant folds at the lower portion while the long lines at front and back give a most desirable effect to the figure. It is exceedingly handsome in chiffon velvet or in velveteen while it is almost equally attractive in the thin veillings and the like of the coming season.

The skirt is made in three pieces. The front gore is narrow and is laid in an outward turning plait at each edge, these plaits being stitched flat for a portion of their length, while the fulness at the back is laid in double inverted plaits which also are stitched and can be trimmed with buttons or left plain as preferred.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 7½ yards 27, 4½ yards 44 or 52 inches wide.

The pattern 5568 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist measure and will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents. (If in haste send an additional two cent stamp for letter postage which insures more prompt delivery.)

HANDKERCHIEF AND WORK BAGS. 5507.

Bags are among the useful articles which never can be too numerous. With each new one is found some use therof and they consequently make most acceptable and satisfactory gifts. Here are two that are excellent, each of its sort, and which are designed for quite different uses. No. 1 forming a convenient receptacle for soiled handkerchiefs and the like while No. 2 is designed for the needlewoman. In the illustration both are made from pretty cretonne with ribbon but any effective material that may be liked can be utilized. If an exceedingly handsome bag is desired brocaded or striped silk will be found desirable while for the less costly ones there are many varieties of flowered cotton stuffs that are eminently attractive.

No. 1 is made with two circular portions that are joined and stitched together across the corners while an opening is cut in one portion and finished with a wooden ring to which the ribbon hanger is attached. No. 2 is made with two circular portions that are lined and joined at the center with a piece of stiff cardboard between the two that forms a firm foundation for the center. They are then stitched together on indicated lines while ribbon hangers are attached between

these lines, which, when drawn together, form a number of convenient and generally useful pockets while the center of the bag provides the main receptacle.

The quantity of material required for No. 1 is 1¼ yards 27 or ¾ yard 36 inches wide with ¾ yard of ribbon; for No. 2, 1 yard 27 or ¾ yard 36 inches wide with ¾ yard 36 inches wide for the lining and 5 yards of ribbon.

The pattern 5507 is cut in one size only.

BOY'S PAJAMAS 5530.

No sleeping garment is quite so popular as the pajamas, for the active boys at least. They mean protection whether the bed covering stays in proper order or



5554 Box Coat, 32 to 42 bust.



5555 Misses' Square Yoke Night Gown, 12 to 18 years.



5540 Sacque Night Gown, 34 to 46 bust.



5507 Handkerchief and Work Bags, One Size.

does not and are altogether thoroughly satisfactory and comfortable. The suit illustrated is made of cheviot but for it can be utilized either the fine French or Scotch flannels or the simpler flannelettes, the cotton chevrets and Madras or if a still handsomer suit is desired, pongee.

The pajamas consist of the coat and the trousers. The coat is perfectly loose with only shoulder and under-arm seams and is finished with a roll over collar while its sleeves are in coat style and there is a patch pocket on the left front. The trousers are the regulation sort drawn up by means of tapes inserted in a casing at the upper edge.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (10 years) is 5 yards 27 or 3½ yards 36 inches wide.

The pattern 5530 is cut in sizes for boys of 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years of age.

BOY'S NIGHT SHIRT 5570.

To Be Made With Closed or Open Neck.

The night shirt without fulness at the back is apt to be preferred to almost every other sort and here is a model that includes that feature and that also allows a choice of the closed or slightly open neck. There is an applied yoke at the back and the pocket that is absolutely necessary to masculine peace and comfort is found on the left front, while almost any suitable material can be utilized, flannel and flannelette for colder weather, muslin, cambric, Madras and the like for the warmer nights.

The shirt is made with fronts and back. The yoke is applied over the back and when high neck is used there is a straight over-lap applied to one edge of the opening and under lap to the other while the turnover collar finishes the neck. When the open neck is desired the fronts are out away slightly and a shaped band with over lap and under lap combined, completes the edges. The sleeves are made in one piece and are sewed to the arms-eyes, the seams and the under-arm seams of the shirt being closed together.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (10 years) is 5½ yards 27 or 4¾ yards 36 inches wide.

The pattern 5570 is cut in sizes for boys of 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years of age and will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents. (If in haste send an additional two cent stamp for letter postage which insures more prompt delivery.)

BOX COAT 5554.

To Be Made With Shawl or Regulation Collar and Lapels.

The box coat is an eminently fashionable one just now and is exceedingly becoming as well as smart. This one suits both the costume and the separate wrap and consequently almost all seasonable materials. In the illustration, however, it is made of kersey, with collar and cuffs of velvet and cloth combined and is trimmed with handsome buttons, the edges being finished with simple tailor stitching with beading silk. If the shawl collar is not liked the regulation one with lapels can be substituted and these can be all of velvet or the collar of velvet with lapels of cloth as preferred. Again, the cuffs can be made of one material if liked better. Contrast of color, too, can be used as such combinations as leather color or on green or blue, dark green on black and the like are much in vogue.

The coat is made with fronts and back. The fronts are supplied with generous patch pockets and the neck can be finished either with the shawl collar, as illustrated, or the fronts faced and turned back to form lapels while the regulation collar is joined to the neck edge. The sleeves are in coat style, the cuffs at their lower edges being rolled over on the seams.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4¾ yards 27, 2¾ yards 44 or 3¾ yards 52 inches wide with 1-8 yard of velvet.

The pattern 5554 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure and will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of ten cents. (If in haste send an additional two cent stamp for letter postage which insures more prompt delivery.)

MISSSES' SQUARE YOKE NIGHT GOWN 5555.

The square yoke night gown is always a desirable one. It is smooth across the shoulders while it is abundantly full at the lower portion and it suits both the warm flannels of winter and the finer cambrics of summer equally well. This one designed for young girls is eminently simple yet absolutely comfortable and it can be made as pretty and dainty as the most exacting girl could require by the use of little frills and fine work. In the illustration cambric is trimmed with frills of embroidery but the wash flannels and flannelettes are much liked for cold weather use and these can be finished with little frills or heavy cotton or linen lace or with scalloped edges as liked.

The gown consists of yoke and skirt



5530 Boy's Pajamas, 6 to 14 years.



5568 Three-Piece Skirt, 22 to 30 waist.



5551 Child's Coat, 1, 2, 4 and 6 years.



5570 Boy's Night Shirt, 6 to 14 years.

portion. The skirt portion is gathered and joined to the yoke and the front edges are finished with hems that are lapped one over the other and stitched to position below the buttons. There are one-piece sleeves which are finished with straight cuffs and at the neck is a roll-over collar.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (14 years) is 5½ yards 27 or 4¾ yards 36 inches wide with 4 yards of edging.