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SUIT and FUR HOUSE.

THE WEST We are now introducing many new novel-



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And as such can offer later styles at lower prices than any house west of Chicago-a fact we'll take pleasure in proving to Lincolnites.

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We can show you a fine line of Cloaks, Dresses and Furs that lurpass anything you have ever seen in the entire west. It will pay you to take a trip to Omaha to see us, if you

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Open their Holiday Goods and Toys in their Basement,

SATURDAY, DEC. 1st,

Where Santa Claus has established his Headquarters this year.

It will pay you to visit BARR'S, they are making special cuts in

Dress Goods

Silks, Linens, Flannels,

Gents' Underwear, HOSIERY,

CLOAKS, SUITS,

Seal Skin Cloaks

MILLINERY,

Dress Trimming and Fur Trimming.

Wni. Barr Dry Goods Co 16th and Douglas Sts.,

OMAHA, - NEB.

THE WEEK'S FASHIONS.

THE NUMBER OF EUROPEANS WHO MAKE AMERICAN GOWNS.

Whole Cities in Europe Given Up to the Manufacture of Things of Beauty for American Women-Some Loves of Bonnets and the Newest New York Gowns.

[Special Correspondence.]
NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Yesterday I sat looking out of my window at the many hued mass of humanity, as the whole fe-male population of New York pushed and squeezed and crowded along, on holiday presents and bargains intent, and I got into a train of thought which led me to review what I knew of the way in which all the beautiful garments and goods of the season are brought here for dissemination throughout the country.



SOME LOVELINESS JUST FOR A CHANGE. and I don't know but it might please my readers.

In the first place, it must be premised that there are silkworm farms in many foreign countries, and that many whole cities are given up to the production of silks, satins, velvets and brocades, and others where different woolen or cotton goods are produced almost entirely for this market. There are estima ...d to be about 500,000 persons engaged in the preparation of the furs worn by our women, not counting the hunters or sales people, and besides the other things shawls come from Persia and India, jewels from everywhere, and no end of different articles of wearing apparel from all the countries on the face of the globe.

How many milliners and dressmakers, shoemakers and other such workers there are in Europe, the product of whose labor is entirely for the American market, there are no means of finding out, but the figures must mount up into many thousands. The great steamers and numberless ships that come into our ports like winged carayans, all bring case upon case and bale upon bale of goods to be employed in dressing our women, and the ingenuity and invention of the producers have been taxed to the or the producers have been taxed to the utmost to get up something new and at-tractive. The colors are as varied as the materials, and the patterns are as beau-tiful as an artistic eye and technical knowledge can make them. Bonnets are poems and hats whole volumes— generally bearing more some and artistic eye. generally bearing upon some phase of natural history. There are curls and gloves, fans and laces, ribbons, parasols, everything known in the list of a wo-man's wants, and that list is usually longer than anybody's purse.

All these goods have to be manufactured in wholesale, shipped to wholesale merchants here in such quantities that a visit to one of the large importing houses is a revelation. In one there are five floors, each 155 by 70 feet, and all are filled with great cases, shelves and tables, loaded down with rolls of silk, velvet, cloths of all kinds and prices, with cloaks apparently by the million and stacks of hats from floor to ceiling, and other things in proportion. And there are hundreds of such great importing houses, so many that there is a radius of several blocks in the heart of the business center known as "the dry goods district," which probably represents more solid wealth than any other part Leati

and they sell nothing at retail themselves. The number of truckmen alone employed in delivering these goods in cases at the different railway depots would make a good sized army, and it strikes the female beholder as rather curious that while a man is an importer and can handle whatever kind of goods and can handle whatever kind of goods he pleases, he is as apt to have half his great house filled with 10 cent woolen goods and 3 cent calicoes as with magnificent silks and brocades. I am sure ladies for evening every woman will feel surprised at such moral turpitude, just as I did. But then I suppose somebody has to supply cheap goods. We can't all be millionaires, and many are glad to get the zag sort of a fancy cheapest grades—for instance, writers, and it is simply farmers wives and ministers' helpmeets.
I always call a minister's wife a "helpmeet," and his children "babes." I use an enormous think it sounds more respectful and con-

After the spring, summer or fall or dery on their winter importations are here-and they Brussa crepe always arrive about five months before gauze. the season for which they are intended— work it in real they are unpacked and thrown open for inspection, and in a short time all those ever, and this is enormous piles of goods have melted away and the retail stores begin to show them little by little and in small detachments, for if they showed them all at once, the women would soon get tired



BROCADED SILK AND CHINA CREPE DIN-NER DRESS.

When the new importations reach the retail houses they are quickly disseminated—I use that word advisedly—among the women, and the left over stock is sold as bargains at whatever it will

Broadway from Tenth street to Tweety-third, and Fourteenth street frem Broadway to Sixth avenue, and Sixth avenue from Fourteenth street to Twenty-third street hold the most of the stores of any prominence, and what cannot be found in the way of personal adornment here cannot be found in the world, for everything beautiful, costly or artistic has an exemplar somewhere among these stores. Artistic furniture, brica-brac, carpets, pictures and jewelry are also represented in the most magnificent articles in each line, and fur stores, shoes, laces, gloves, hats and bonnets, dresses, cloaks and dress goods, as well as the million and one other articles which custom and fashion have made necessary for feminine adornment. And the money to pay for all these beautiful things has to be earned by the sweat of the brow of the head of the family.

And what are the newest fashions which are causing such a movement? Oh, I'm coming to them. One of them, for instance, was a bonnet of a rich green velvet, with a series of little stars and moons, dots and letters of the alphabet cut out of cream colored felt and dotted all over the crown. This reminded the beholder irresistibly of those little bits of culinary articles one finds in the soup made of macaroni paste called "noodles." Thin strips of the felt were gathered into a mass of loops on the top, intermingled with velvet bows. It looked like half boiled vermicelli. I know the lady who paid twenty-three dollars for that, and I can vouch for her sanity on ordinary subjects.

A very pretty gray velvet bonnet has a band of dark gray embossed velvet down the center of the crown. The trimming is of two pigeons' wings in dif-

ferent shades of gray.
Some of the most expensive though least striking bonnets and turbans are made of Persian brocade. This is usually in dark colors, like green and brown, woven in a very close pattern, with here and there a gold thread show-The material is stiff and the bonnets more expensive than becoming.

A few young ladies fasten their feather or fur boas to the back of their hats and let the ends lie loosely in front. I have yet to learn how they hold their hats on unless, indeed, they nail them fast to their heads. Long veils are tied around the hat in front and brought down at the right side and fastened there in a sailor's half hitch and the ends left

The beautiful Russian blue is seen in velvet, in cashmere, and in cloth, and is ery becoming.



long angel sleeves being covered with a rich mass of soutache braiding. Irish poplin is much worn in all the lighter shades for evening wear.

and combined with Italian or Chinese crepe the effect is superb. One very beautiful gown of this material was made this week at a fashionable house of apple green, Irish pop-lin, with long open sleeves over inner ones. The outer ones were of gold embroidered Italian crepe and the inner

LEATHER TRIMMED HOME COSTUME, The front was of the same, while all the drapery was of

the poplin. The effect was very rich and Leather, both dressed and natural of this great city.

Each and all of these import in enormous quantities and sell to the retail of material in dresses. Belts, collars, color, stamped in set figures and flowers, is used as trimming for many varieties dealers, both here and all over America, cuffs, vests and panels are all to be seen of this new trimming.

Crepe lisse with embroidery done in metallic threads and with here and there

as a material to wear. This is pattern is usually an irregular zigone of the stipulated articles in their marriage contracts, that

the husband must furnish the wife so many spools of

LEATHER COLORED CASHMERE DRESS. gold thread per year, according to his position. Jet ornamentation is fully as much of a favorite as ever, though soutache braid-

ing and metallic braiding have their places also. And there are beautiful de-tached bits of braiding and tasseled drops that are perfectly exquisite. Dresses for the street are nearly hidden SLIPPER BAGS from view now by the ultra long wraps, redingotes and ragians. The jackets are very short and the wraps very long. There are no half long garments worn this season. I saw a lady yesterday with a gathered-in cloak of green and blue plaid, with a green silk hood. The plaid was over a foot square. Some of the new brocades for dresses have flowers

and figures eight and ten inches long,

and those on the embossed velvet are

simply enormous. On the other hand, the majority of dresses are marked by quiet good taste, which leads to the choice of small patterns and delicate or quiet colors. Still. if a lady is going to a ball or an opera to be seen, she wants something that will of them and want something newer, prove how much money she has spent, Then the leading houses will make up and these rich brocades and embossed garments and some pattern gowns or velvets cost all the way from \$15 to \$50 cloaks or something else will be launched a yard; but the wearers economize by and "caught on to" or not, just as " hap- using very little of the goods in the

"TAPS!"

Every soldier has listened to the bugle-call of "Taps!" at nine o'clock at night, ordering all lights out in the barracks. This thought has been most beautifully adapted to the memory of General Phil. Sheridan, a man endeared to every heart for his bravery, by the American song-writer, John de Witt, in his song entitled "Taps!"



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-FOR-

LADIES, GENTLEMEN,

OR CHILDREN

HOME OR PARTY USE.

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NEW YEAR CALLING CARDS.

As this beautiful custom of calling on New Years' day is to be more generally observed than heretofore, The Wessel Printing Co., has received a line of the finest

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we have also a fine line of New Year Souveniers to send by mail. These are bandsomely illuminated, have envelopes and are perfect models of art. We shall be pleased to quote prices, or send agent if requested. Telephone 253.

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The stock now being new and complete it would be well for patrens to call early before the assortment is broken and best designs are taken.