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THE FASHIONS OF THE DAY

OLIVE HARPER COMPARES THEM WITH THE WAYS OF THE PAST.

The Girls of These Happy Times Dress More Sensibly Than Their Foremothers Did, Their Chests Are Broader and They Are Much Healthier.

[Special Correspondence.]

New York, April 10.—How true it is that dress makes the woman one may judge by a look at the two pretty figures below labeled with our own trade mark of "morning and afternoon." In the morning the pretty angel of the household comes down to her breakfast in a gown of soft, cream colored flannel, embroidered in Russian stitch and made in Russian style. With her abundant locks hanging in two long braids she looks the sweet, cajoling daughter who can hang around her father and give him his coffee and coax the last penny out of his pocket, so that when afternoon comes on



MORNING AND AFTERNOON.

she can put on her new Tartan plaid gown, with her stylish, if rather startling, jacket, with its bold design of braiding and velvet sleeves, and hat with a whole poultry yard on it, and go out shopping, or to take one of those long, brisk walks that are so fashionable now.

In the morning the dress compels the naive innocence of the ingenue, in the afternoon the entire outfit creates a new outward girl, and the new one as she walks along with her head well up and an almost defiant air seems to somehow exhale the statement that "the plague of the fly resteth not on the daughter of my father."

Athletic exercises may be in some measure blamed, or thanked, for the increased independence in the step and movements of the young women of the day, and the rest is due to the fuller self knowledge afforded by the education given the girls. Dresses are not made tight enough to make suffocating martyrs of them, and shoes are no longer the instruments of torture they used to be. I have a fashion book for 1848, and in it I read that slippers with thin, flexible soles were all the style, for street as well as home wear.

Now the soles of the most fashionable walking boots are at least a quarter of an inch thick, and some are thicker. The gain in the health rate is great in consequence. At that period it was proper for young girls to be delicate, ethereal, with drooping heads, long curls and slim waists, and as long as that was the fashion it was perfectly proper. Now, we have fresh, bright girls with sparkling eyes, elastic step, arms with real muscles and chests which give plenty space for deep breathing, and the result is certainly achieved by lenient fashion. Let us be thankful and hold on to what we have, and strive for further advance. It is because women are learning to think, and are learning more about themselves, a study that was deemed improper only a few years ago, that we can hope to have fashion join common sense, and give us clothing adapted to the preservation of health as well as the adornment and enhancement of beauty.

The new craze for black China crepe gowns is spreading with wonderful rapidity. There is also another kind of soft silky crepe, which I really do not know the name of, but it is very crinkly and exceedingly pretty. This is also largely used, and any lady who has an old black embroidered China crepe shawl feels as happy as a miner who has struck a lead. These shawls are usually em-



FOR THE HOME DRESSMAKER.

brothered richly in colors or in black. If in colors, it is perhaps better to have it dyed black before making up, as the colors are crude and scarcely suitable for present styles. The shawl can then be used as the other crepe would be in combination with some lighter color, and a magnificent dress would be the result.

I saw a gown made of plain black China crepe, made up over sky blue satin, and with a trimming of fine cut steel beads. It was worn at a recent Patti night at the opera, and was much ad-

mired; and as it is one of those styles which clever little home dressmakers can evolve from grandma's old shawl and a trifle of satin, I give the dress below. How pretty it is I leave the ladies to judge. It could be made high in the neck by a yoke, and the sleeves could be made long, leaving the puffed tops for caps. Instead of the steel bending the deft fingers of the industrious little dressmaker can embroider or applique anything she likes. Metallic colors are more suitable than any others, as they seem fitter to be used on black, and this crepe is blacker than any other fabric but velvet.

I notice among the new silks the lovely Japanese crepe, which came out last season in only light and delicate tints, is now shown in jet black with tiny pink polka dots or small flowers in the most natural colors stamped upon it. It is an exquisite material, and has the clinging effect so sought after now.

A very pretty dress for a young lady is made of beige colored cashmere and seal brown cashmere. The lighter color is used for the panel opening and draping of the waist, and the darker for all the rest. The cuffs and waist band were worked in silk of two shades of brown, the whole gown being very dainty and girlish.

When a lady has a little nice material, either in velvet, velutina, silk or woolen goods, she can utilize it by making a plain underskirt, and then she can wear several different draperies with it, made of material of which she did not have enough to make a whole skirt. If the colors harmonize, it is enough. Any kind of basque or bodice is suitable. I know one lady who has made the prettiest and dressiest Figaro jackets out of the best parts of a pair of fine broadcloth pantaloons. She braided it with scarlet and gold, and when she slips this on over a plain gown, the effect is almost magical. It does not take very long to braid such a jacket, and I don't believe her braid cost a dollar.

OLIVE HARPER.

THE DANGERS OF POLITENESS.

A Good Story About an Ex-Governor Who Was Too Courteous.

Ex-Governor and Representative McCreary, of Kentucky, is noted for his politeness. On one occasion he was the guest of a friend in the country. When he sat down to supper the lady of the house asked him whether he wished coffee or tea. The governor replied:

"Coffee, if you please, madam."

His fondness for hot coffee is known to his friends, who can well imagine his feelings when the hostess informed him that the cook had neglected to warm the coffee for supper, and that it was cold. Even this information of the cook's neglect did not affect the governor's politeness, and with a smile he replied:

"How fortunate, madam. Do you know, madam, that I am so eccentric as to prefer cold coffee, and do not care for it in any other way. Your cook's neglect is good news to me."

The relief of the housekeeper can be understood as she handed Governor McCreary the coffee, which he sipped with well feigned pleasure.

The weather the next day was cold and bracing. It was just such a day as to make the heart of a coffee drinker long for his favorite drink. Governor McCreary had forgotten the incident of the night before when he sat down to breakfast. But if it had escaped his memory it had not that of his hostess.

"I have the coffee cold for you this morning, governor," she said, sweetly. "You see I remember that you said you never liked it in any other way."

The smile on Governor McCreary's face was hardly as angelic as it was the night before, but he drank the cold coffee without a murmur. It was with difficulty, however, that the other guests restrained their laughter over the unfortunate predicament in which the governor had placed himself by his politeness.—New York Tribune.

Short-Hand.

Every reader of the COURIER who has any interest whatever in the above subject should send his address at once and important information will be given. Address Short-Hand, care COURIER, Lincoln, Neb.

At a meeting held in Grand Island Thursday to form a state base ball league only Lincoln, Grand Island and Kearney were represented. It was decided to interest another city and form a four-club league.

THE HUSKIN',
(DANCE.)

Written expressly for The American Press Association.

By GRACE HITCHCOCK.



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FRIDAY, APRIL 18th, IS LADIES' SOUVENIR DAY. Japanese Souvenirs for the Ladies Afternoon and Evening. SATURDAY IS CHILDREN'S DAY, all Children Admitted to the Museum for 10 Cents. Seats are Free to them.

To the Ladies and Children.—Owing to the great interest that will be taken in this banner attraction, we will open the Museum Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 10 A. M. You will avoid the large crowds and have a better opportunity to study the ways of the Japanese if you attend these morning receptions. We will have plenty of souvenirs for the Ladies who attend Friday Morning, Afternoon or Night.

E. M. LAWLER, Manager.